



Bylaws
Revised 2018|Updated 2022

BYLAWS of the SOUTH CAROLINA DISTRICT
of the UNITED PENTECOSTAL CHURCH INTERNATIONAL, INC.

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Dear Fellow Minister:

It truly is a beautiful thing, how God brings various people together with diverse backgrounds and calls us to work together in advancing His kingdom! As our District mission statement conveys, we are ... *“Connecting to Advance His Kingdom!”* With this copy of our District Constitution, we would like to say that we are happy to have you as a minister of the South Carolina District. We encourage you to read carefully these Bylaws for they contain the rules, obligations, and internal governance under which we operate as a District.

You are a member of the South Carolina District of the United Pentecostal Church International. I sincerely hope that each of you will take seriously the responsibility of doing your part to help our District to grow, to follow the tenets of faith, to be loyal to the teachings of the UPCI, to preach the Word of God, and to be involved in all District events as much as possible.

As a minister, you are an ambassador of Christ, and behind the apostolic preacher is the authority and power of the Kingdom of Heaven! The calling to preach is higher than any earthly calling! Please remember that although many of our ministers are bi-vocational and have secular employment responsibilities, your primary responsibility is to fulfill your call as a minister of the gospel. What you do in your community, and on your job if you are employed, is a reflection of the United Pentecostal Church International. What a privilege to serve in the Kingdom of God! Please never take this responsibility lightly!

There are many things that you must remember about the life of a minister. You are not your own ... you are bought with a price! Much will be required of you in the matter of time, dedication and patience as you work with people. The discipleship process can vary from one person to the next, so please remember that our calling involves developing spiritual maturity among the people we serve, not just seeing them experience Acts 2:38. It takes loving people and being patient with people, which is not always easy. Preach and teach the Word of God, not your personal preferences, and God’s Word will not return void. (Isaiah 55:11)

The Word of God, as well as our Articles of Faith, emphasize the importance of “UNITY!” We may not always see “eye to eye” on every point, but surely there is enough that we can agree on that we can work together for the sake of growth in the South Carolina District! We are the “UNITED” Pentecostal Church and God always blesses in the atmosphere of unity!

Our prayers are with you as you labor to win souls in the South Carolina District. I strongly believe that regardless of what we may have to face in our future, God is always ready to help us accomplish His will! I’m so thankful that God has brought us together for such a time as this! My prayer is that we will all work together for the advancing of His Kingdom, and we will truly experience the greatest season ever of growth and revival in the State of South Carolina!

In His Service,



Ed Gann

SC District Superintendent

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HISTORY OF THE SOUTH CAROLINA DISTRICT

An article entitled “After Twenty Years” written by Arthur L. Clanton and published by the Pentecostal Historical Society in an issue of Historical News began with the following statement, “One of the most significant steps ever taken by Oneness Pentecostal people was that of the merger of the Pentecostal Assemblies of Jesus Christ and Pentecostal Church Incorporated. This merger was consummated during the General Conference September 20-26, 1945.” He continued to describe the unity and harmony that came from those sessions together as unreal and blessed of God. As a seventeen-and-a-half-year-old Bible School student, it was my privilege to attend their 1st General Conference the next year after the merger and sang with the school quartette. The electrifying power of God among that unified body of believers was beyond description, and helped me to persuade my father to leave the independents and join the UPCI.

It was at those 1945 organizational meetings that the Planning Committee took the Minister & Church Rosters of both groups to determine the boundaries for the proposed district of the new organization. The By Laws called for a certain minimum number of qualified ministers within each district to hold offices and to function properly.

There were several Truth proclaiming churches in the State of Georgia at this time, but as a whole they were not well acquainted with the merging bodies, so with only a couple of churches that were affiliated, Georgia, was included in the Southeastern District with three other states: Florida (the stronger of the four), North Carolina and South Carolina. North Carolina soon requested to be a part of the closer Eastern District due to the travel distance to Florida. God graciously blessed the three remaining states with growth. Several independent and localized churches begin to feel God’s favor toward the UPCI and joined them in the effort to “Take the Whole Gospel to the Whole World”.

In 1958, Georgia and South Carolina felt they had sufficient growth and ministers to maintain a district together. They requested the privilege to form another district. The General Board reviewed their request, and the new district was approved. On April 9, 1959 at Ocala, Florida, the new District became known as the “Georgia-South Carolina District”. They left the close fellowship they had enjoyed, and the campground they had helped to build and finance for thirteen years, to start afresh without funds or finances, and only a few churches. Brother C.C. Wheatly described their first few district board meetings as being held under shade trees, or stars at night, with the hood of cars to hold their agenda and notes.

The first District Conference of the Georgia-South Carolina District was held in the spring of 1960, at one of Georgia’s original UPC churches in Brunswick. Brother C.C. Wheatly founded this church in 1945, the year of the Merger.

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Officers were elected as follows:

District Superintendent, T.C. Montgomery
District Secretary, H. Q. Griffis
Presbyters:
 Section I, C.C. Wheatly
 Section II, R.B. Montgomery
 Section III, J.W. Shaffer
Conquerors President, Bennie Cole
Conquerors Secretary, Carl Wheatly
Sunday School Director, Carl Wheatly
Ladies Auxiliary President, Melinda Montgomery
Ladies Auxiliary Secretary, Lorene Reynolds
Home Missions Director, H.P. Brock

Representatives from North Carolina came to this conference with a recommendation from the General Board and the request to be included with a new name chosen. The Atlantic District, and Section No. IV was added. D. L. Pridgen was chosen as Presbyter for that section. Four months later, the first Youth Camp was held at the Brunswick Church with over 100 young people enrolled. Nineteen were baptized and sixteen received the Holy Ghost. The first Sheaves for Christ offering that year of over \$2,000, received a National award for the *“Most District Offering per Conqueror.”*

Bennie and Rachel Cole were asked by the conference to look into the possibilities of editing and publishing a monthly periodical. The first issue, dated December 1960, went out without a name. It listed 26 ministers and churches cooperating with the District Tithing Plan (18 from Georgia, 6 from South Carolina, and 2 from North Carolina). The Churches were given the opportunity to suggest names for the district paper. The District Board reviewed them, and the name chosen was *“Atlantic Messenger.”*

Camp meeting 1961 was held under the tent on the property donated to the district on Nowhere Road in Athens, Georgia (the road definitely led nowhere). Brother W.L. Gamblin was the evening speaker. In 1962 the district purchased property just north of Macon, and built a dining hall and two dormitories, with service to be held in the tent until a tabernacle could be constructed. This property proved to be a great investment since it set on a very valuable rock vein. It was sold approximately four years later for a good profit, and the campground’s present 50 acre site was purchased on State Highway 36.

In 1964 the two states of North and South Carolina felt confident and strong enough to form their own district. God had greatly blessed the district during those four years together, and the new Georgia District Board felt it good to divide some of the assets with the new *Carolina District*.

(This history was provided by Rachel Cole.)

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The Carolina District was in existence until 1968. A meeting was held in Charlotte, NC and the two states were divided into two districts: The North Carolina District and South Carolina District. In April of 1968, a meeting was held in Greenwood, SC, wherein Bro. H.Q. Griffis from Hampton, SC was elected as Superintendent and Bro. W.L. Clayton of Charleston was elected as District Secretary-Treasurer. In 1972 Bro. Griffis resigned as Superintendent and Bro. W.L. Clayton became Superintendent with Bro. W.E. Miles as Secretary- Treasurer. Bro. Miles resigned as Secretary-Treasurer in 1979 and Bro. W.J. Singleton became Secretary-Treasurer and served in that capacity until 2004 when Bro. Clayton chose not to let his name run for the office of Superintendent. Bro. Singleton was elected Superintendent. Bro. David Gleason was elected as Secretary and Treasurer. In 2019 Bro. Edward Goddard chose not to let his name run for the office of Superintendent. Bro. Ed Gann was elected as Superintendent. Bro. Russell Drake was elected as Secretary and Treasurer.

History of District Superintendent and Secretary and Treasurer:

1968 - 1972 H.Q. Griffis, Superintendent and W.L. Clayton, Secretary Treasurer

1972 – 2003 W. L. Clayton, Superintendent

1972 – 1979 M.E. Miles, Secretary-Treasurer

1979 – 2003 W.J. Singleton, Secretary-Treasurer

2003 - 2013 W.J. Singleton, Superintendent

2003 – 2019 David Gleason, Secretary-Treasurer

2013 – 2019 Edward Goddard, Superintendent

2019 – Present Russell Drake, Secretary-Treasurer

2019- Present Ed Gann, Superintendent

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PROLOGUE

The tenets of faith and spiritual prerogative contained herein provide a doctrinal foundation for THE SOUTH CAROLINA DISTRICT OF THE UNITED PENTECOSTAL CHURCH INTERNATIONAL, INC., and reflect a purpose that is higher and greater than any one individual or group of individuals involved in the betterment of this corporate body. The letter of the law, contained in the following Articles is necessary for human accountability, direction, and order. The spirit of love, mutual respect, and teach-ability, however, must never be cast aside in the process of implementing any of these Articles. We hold that in the essentials, there must be UNITY, in non-essentials there must be LIBERTY, and in all things, there must be CHARITY.

PREAMBLE

In order to establish our work on a more efficient basis, to promote greater cooperation and to secure closer fellowship, we were organized into The South Carolina District of the United Pentecostal Church International.

ARTICLES OF INCORPORATION

The South Carolina District of the United Pentecostal Church International is incorporated and listed with the State of South Carolina as a non-profit corporation.

ARTICLES OF FAITH

The South Carolina District of the United Pentecostal church International wholeheartedly endorses the Articles of Faith of the United Pentecostal Church International as stated in the current Manual and also endorses all the qualifications and duties of officers stated in the UPCI Manual. All South Carolina elected and appointed officers of the South Carolina District must conform to the Fundamental Doctrine of the United Pentecostal Church International.

ARTICLE I - DISTRICT OFFICERS

Section 1. Names of Officers.

1. The officers of the district shall be as follows:

District Superintendent, three (3) to seven (7) District Presbyters, and a District Secretary-Treasurer (may be one [1] or two [2] persons). Other additional Presbyters may be added where needed in a large district, with the permission of the Executive Board.

Section 2. District Board.

1. The District Board shall consist of District Superintendent, District Secretary, and the District Presbyters.
2. A candidate for the position of Honorary District Board member must be nominated by any district board member while the district board is in session. Nominees must meet the qualifications for honorary board members which shall be: Nominee must be at

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least sixty-five (65) years of age, and must have served for a minimum of ten (10) years on the South Carolina District Board. Nominations are to be presented to the District Conference in session and ratified by the conference. Honorary board members have a voice but do not have a vote in district board meetings.

Section 3. Qualifications.

1. The qualifications for member of the District Board as are follows: Must be a male at least thirty (30) years of age, must have been a minister in good standing with the organization for at least two (2) years, must have been ordained at least one (1) year, must have proven loyal to the organization by cooperation in the up-building of the work, and must have been a cooperating member of the district for at least one (1) year. The only exception to this is that the District Superintendent must have been a minister in good standing with the organization for at least five (5) years. Must conform to the Fundamental Doctrine.

Section 4. Voting Constituency.

1. Those who shall be entitled to vote for the election of officers, or upon any proposal, resolution, or any other business that properly comes before the District Conference, shall be accredited ministers in good standing. All accredited ministers who vote must be in actual attendance at the District Conference.
2. Those who shall be entitled to vote for the election of officers, or upon any proposal, resolution, or any other business that properly comes before the Sectional Conference, shall be accredited ministers in the following categories:
 - a. Pastors
 - b. Assistant Pastors and assistants to the pastor
 - c. No assembly shall be permitted more than (1) voting assistant pastor or assistant to the pastor who derives his or her livelihood from sources other than the ministry. Assistant pastors or assistants to the pastor, who derive their livelihood from sources other than the ministry, must present a letter to the Roster Committee from the church where they have been assistant pastors or assistants to the pastor for a minimum of six (6) months. The letter must be signed by the pastor or church secretary and will be in effect as long as he or she remains in the position at the same church.
3. Evangelists
 - a) An evangelist must be on the field and regularly engaged in preaching revivals, deriving his or her livelihood from the ministry.
4. All elected or appointed officials who are listed in the constitution contained in the manual.
5. Honorary ministers.
6. Retired ministers.
 - (a) A retired minister is a minister who, due to advanced age or physical impairment, has retired from the active ministry.
 - (b) Full-time administrators and instructors in all religious projects endorsed by the United Pentecostal Church International.
 - (c) Full-time administrators and instructors in Christian schools, owned and operated by our churches.

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All Christian school administrators and instructors must present a letter to the Roster Committee from their local church signed by the pastor or church secretary, stating their active involvement in ministerial service. This letter will be in effect as long as he or she remains in this position at the same church. Said letter shall remain on file in the district office.

(d) Accredited ministers who are in between appointment shall be entitled to vote if the time of inactivity has not exceeded ninety (90) days.

7. Missionaries under appointment.
8. Accredited ministers who are between appointments shall be entitled to vote if the time of inactivity has not exceeded ninety (90) days.
9. All accredited ministers who vote must be in actual attendance at the sectional conference.

Section 5. Representation.

1. District Presbyters should be nominated by their section and voted on by the sectional conference.

Section 6. Objections to Nominees.

1. If there is any objection to any nominee, a request may be made to the chair that the same be referred to a Qualifying Committee. No details of the objection or questions shall be discussed from the floor. The Qualifying Committee may determine a nominee's qualifications only according to that specified in the Manual under the qualification given for the office under consideration.
2. The Qualifying Committee Chair shall be appointed by the officer presiding at the time of the objection to the nominee. The committee shall consist of at least three (3) members, but not more than five (5), including the chair of the committee. The District Superintendent shall, prior to the conference, prepare a list of potential members of the Qualifying Committee. This list shall be composed from the current voting membership. The presiding officer shall select from this list in the event this committee is needed.

Section 7. Method of Election.

1. The method of election of district officers by the District Conference shall be the same as that used by the General Conference in the election of officers unless the individual district desires to be divided into sections. In that case, each section within the district shall elect its District Presbyter from within the section at a sectional conference preceding the annual District Conference, said officers to take office at the annual district conference.
2. The election of district officers shall be conducted by the General Superintendent or his representative.

Section 8. Term of Office.

1. All officers elected by the District Conference shall remain in office for a term of two (2) years. After any district or sectional official has served four (4) consecutive terms in an elected office, he or she would be required to be elected by a two-thirds (2/3) vote to a fifth (5th) term and all consecutive terms. In the event the incumbent does not receive a two-thirds (2/3) vote on the nominating ballot, a new nominating ballot would

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be called for and the incumbent's name would be deleted. In the event that a new superintendent is elected in any district, the outgoing superintendent shall continue in office for a period of thirty (30) days following the date of said election. The District Superintendent and the District Secretary-Treasurer shall be elected on alternating years, with the Youth President, the Sunday School Director, and the Ladies Ministries President being elected the same year as the District Superintendent and the Youth Secretary, North American Missions Director, Global Missions Representative, Sunday School Secretary, and Ladies Ministries Secretary being elected the same year as the District Secretary-Treasurer.

Section 9. Death, Resignation, and Removal.

1. Any district officer taking a pastorate or establishing a residence outside of his or her district between conferences must resign his or her office.
2. If vacancies happen by death, resignation, removal, or establishment of a residence outside of the district, the District Board may fill such vacancies, with the exception of the office of District Superintendent, only until the next District Conference. If there remains a year unexpired in the term of said office, the District Conference shall elect a replacement to serve for that year. In the event a vacancy occurs in the office of District Superintendent, the General Superintendent shall be authorized to preside over district business until the election of a District Superintendent at a special district conference called by the General Superintendent, or an Assistant General Superintendent, for the purpose of conducting an election to fill this office. Said election shall be held within sixty (60) days after the vacancy occurs.

Section 10. Spanish Director Election.

1. The Spanish Director shall be nominated by the Spanish-speaking brethren at the district conference. There shall only be two voting members per church when nominating the names to be brought to the voting constituency of the District Conference to be voted upon.
2. The elected Spanish Director shall sit on the District Board as a non-voting liaison for the Spanish brethren in two meetings of the year: Yearly planning session and the yearly licensing seminar. Unless needed in a given situation where the district board would need a translator.

ARTICLE II - RIGHTS AND DUTIES OF OFFICERS, AND RULES APPERTAINING THERETO

Section 1. District Superintendent (General Presbyter).

1. He shall be a member of and shall attend all regular and specially called meetings of the Board of General Presbyters.
2. In the event he is unable to attend a regular or specially called meeting of the Board of the General Presbyters, the District Board, should it be in session, shall select one of its members to act as the representative. Should the District Board not be in session, the District Superintendent of said district is authorized to appoint a representative from the District Board.
3. The duties of the District Superintendent shall be as follows:
 - (a) To be overseer of the district work in cooperation with the District Board.
 - (b) To maintain a spirit of harmony and cooperation between the district and general work, thereby working in harmony and unity with all other districts.
 - (c) To encourage the raising of missionary money.
 - (d) To assist, when called upon by the pastor or local church board, in dealing with any difficulties which may arise within local assemblies.
 - (e) To assist in securing pastors for assemblies in the district.
 - (f) To investigate all applicants of the district for credentials or license before signing the applications.
 - (g) To sign each credential, license, fellowship card, and church membership certificate issued to applicants in the district.
 - (h) To preside as chair of District Conferences.
 - (i) To encourage a series of Bible and Missionary Conferences in the various assemblies throughout the district.
4. In the furtherance of the work in the district, he shall have the right to appeal to any minister who is a member of the district and any evangelist or missionary currently working in the district.
5. He must be consulted in regard to the organization of new churches within the district.
6. He shall be empowered to ordain ministers in any district meeting or General Conference.
7. The District Superintendent's position allows for him to pastor a church and serve in the office of Superintendent.

Section 2. District Presbyters.

1. The duty of the District Presbyter shall be as follows:
 - (1) To work under the direction of and in cooperation with the District Superintendent in carrying out district work.
 - (2) He shall preside as chair of all sectional business meetings.
 - (3) He shall endeavor to maintain a spirit of harmony and cooperation in the section and all departments of the district and general work.

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- (4) He shall be in charge of all sectional fellowship meetings or appoint a chair to serve in said capacity.
- (5) He shall notify the District Superintendent of all resignations or impending resignations of pastors in the section and consult with him concerning any complaints which have been brought to his attention regarding any minister in the section, or any difficulty arising between pastors or churches.
- (6) He shall assist the District Superintendent in securing pastors for assemblies in his section.
- (7) As a member of the District Board, he shall examine all applications for license or credentials in his section in advance of their appearance before the District Board.
- (8) He shall supply the District Superintendent with whatever assistance or information he may have which would assist him in carrying out the district work.
- (9) In the furtherance of the work in his section, he shall have the right to appeal to any minister who is a member of his section and any evangelist or missionary currently working in his section.

Section 3. District Secretary-Treasurer

1. The duties of the District Secretary-Treasurer shall be as follows:
 - (a) To take minutes of District Conferences and district Board Meetings.
 - (b) To preserve records of business proceedings and all other papers belonging to the district.
 - (c) To receive and care for all district funds and the funds of all departments of the district; and make all district disbursements, and departments disbursements when he holds their funds, to keep an accurate account of all such transactions; to hold the books open for inspection by officers or members of the district; and to make a report at each District Conference.
2. No money should be paid out without the consent of the District Board with the exception of the regular paying of district bills.
3. The District Secretary-Treasurer's position allows for him to pastor a church and serve in the office of Secretary-Treasurer.

Section 4. District Board

1. The duties of the District Board shall be as follows:
 - (a) To take action with regard to false doctrine in the district, so long as the action taken does not conflict with the bylaws of the General Body.
 - (b) To handle any grievance or complaint against a minister according to Judicial Procedure of the General Constitution of the UPCI.
 - (c) To pass upon all applications for credentials, licenses, or church membership certificates issued in the district.
 - (d) To oversee as trustees, real estate and personal property which may be acquired by purchase, devise, or bequest by the district and for the benefit of the district; to use and deal with such real estate and personal property in such manner as may be consistent with the Constitution and Bylaws of the United Pentecostal Church International; to sell, convey, mortgage, pledge, and otherwise encumber such real estate and personal property for the benefit of the district; and to authorize, by proper resolution, its District Superintendent and District Secretary-Treasurer to

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execute and deliver on behalf of the District Board, as trustee, any such deeds of conveyance, notes, mortgages, deeds of trust, or pledges.

- (e) To deal with all other matters pertaining to the district which do not infringe upon the power and privileges of the General Body.

Section 5. Safeguard of Funds.

- 1. Centralization of Funds.
 - (a) The district funds and the funds of every department shall be deposited with and held by the District Secretary-Treasurer.
 - (b) The District Secretary-Treasurer shall release said funds after proper authorization and written request signed the respective department director (voucher).
 - (1) All vouchers are to be signed by the departmental director and include supporting receipts when a reimbursement is requested.
- 2. Standardization of Books:
 - (a) The financial records of all departments shall be standardized by a uniform system of bookkeeping approved by the District Board.

ARTICLE III – FINANCIAL OVERSIGHT

Annual Review Committee: The District Board shall appoint three licensed members of The South Carolina District to conduct an annual review of the District Office and District Departments. The criteria and duties of the committee are as follows:

- 1. Sectional Presbyters cannot serve on the committee.
- 2. Consideration should be given to the financial/accounting qualification and training of the committee members.
- 3. The term of service shall be for three years.
 - (a) The first year this policy is in effect, three appointments will be made. One for one (1) year, one for two (2) years, and one for three (3) years.
 - (b) The person chosen for the three (3) year term will be chairman for all three years.
 - (c) The chairmanship will then pass to the longest serving member each year.
 - (d) Two of the appointments must not be serving as a Department Director or Secretary.
- 4. The committee's annual review shall be performed according to the policies and procedures contained within the South Carolina District UPCI Financial Policies.
- 5. The committee shall be responsible to oversee, develop and facilitate budgets of each department.

ARTICLE IV – DISTRICT CONFERENCE

Section 1. Resolutions

- 1. All resolutions being presented to the District Conference for consideration shall be first presented to the Resolutions Committee six weeks prior to District Conference. Such committee shall pass upon those resolutions prior to its

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submission to the District Conference. Proper notification will be given to the ministerial constituency by publishing a date deadline and mailing address for the submission of resolutions. All resolutions that will be presented to the District Conference shall be mailed to all licensed ministers at least three weeks prior to the District Conference. The Resolutions Committee shall accommodate this mailing deadline. A resolution must have the author's signature. If the Resolutions Committee shall fail to act upon such resolution or shall refuse or fail to report its action to the District Conference, or if the Resolutions Committee fails to report favorably on any such resolution then a vote of two-thirds of those in attendance at the District Conference (entitled to vote) may force such resolution to a vote of the District Conference. The District Board may submit resolutions to the Resolutions Committee for consideration while the conference is in session. Resolutions presented by the District Board, while the conference is in session, will be published and distributed to the voting constituency in attendance at least twelve (12) hours, when possible, before being presented to the conference for consideration.

2. A resolutions committee of 3 licensed ministers, shall be appointed by the District Superintendent in a manner that will facilitate guidelines expressed in the preceding paragraph.
3. Resolution Committee Guidelines:
 - (a) The purpose of the resolutions committee is to review all resolutions, determine which ones are legitimate, and put them in proper form for consideration for the conference.
 - (b) The committee has the power to consult parliamentarians, authors of resolutions, officials, or anyone else to provide information or assistance in its deliberations.
 - (c) If there are two (2) or more resolutions on the same issue the committee may combine them, choose the best representation or write a new resolution that incorporates key features of the original resolutions.
 - (d) If a resolution contains two (2) distinct separable points the committee could divide it into two (2) resolutions.
 - (e) If a resolution conflicts with the Articles of Faith, the by-laws of the UPCI, then the committee must reject the resolution.
 - (f) If a resolution would amend the by-laws it should specify exactly where and how the by-laws would be amended once the by-laws exists in tangible form for such reference.
 - (g) Any Resolution which would affect or change the Articles of Faith must be approved by the district board.
 - (h) The committee should delete any inappropriate language such as harsh, inflammatory, accusatory or personal references.
 - (i) The committee should edit each resolution for grammar, style, clarity, simplicity and consistency of expression.
 - (j) In the case of an amendment to the by-laws the committee should ensure uniformity of language and style with the rest of the constitution. It should strive for clarity and brevity. The proposed wording should only be what is absolutely essential to implement the resolution.

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- (k) The committee should consider the legal implications of a resolution, especially terms that could have legal or technical meanings. It should particularly study the potential effects of any resolution that would commit the organization to a legal, political, or social position.
- (l) The committee should examine all assertions, statistics, allegations, and assumptions contained in a resolution including the preamble. It should make every effort to investigate the validity of such claims. It should modify or delete statements that are speculative, unverifiable, doubtful, or false.
- (m) The committee should examine any interpretation or application of our Articles of Faith and by-laws, judicial procedure, or scripture contained in a resolution and or modify any usage that is questionable or invalid.
- (n) If a resolution comes from the District Board, any substantive changes in the resolution must be approved by the District Board.
- (o) These Bylaws may not be altered, amended or repealed, and new Bylaws be adopted by a two-thirds (2/3) majority vote of the licensed ministers present and voting at any regular meeting or special meeting unless written notice is given to each licensed minister at least two weeks in advance of each meeting.

Section 2. Time and Location

- 1. The District Conference shall be conducted at a location and dates as set by the District Board.

Section 3. Rules of Order.

All business in the District Conference shall be conducted according to and in harmony with *Robert's Rules of Order Revised*.

Article V. Statement of Marriage

Statement of Marriage: We believe that because God our Creator established marriage as a sacred institution between one man and one woman, the idea that marriage is a covenant only between one man and one woman has been the traditional definition of marriage for all of human history (“Traditional Definition of Marriage”). Because of the longstanding importance of the Traditional Definition of Marriage to humans and their relationships and communities, and, most importantly, the fact that God has ordained that marriage be between one man and one woman, as clearly conveyed in God’s inerrant Scriptures, including for example in *Matthew* 19:4-6 where in speaking about marriage Jesus referred to the fact that “he which made them at the beginning made them male and female,” the Organization hereby creates this policy, which shall be known as the “Marriage Policy” and is part of the Organization’s By-Laws. See also 2 Corinthians 6:14; 1 Thessalonians 5:22; Colossians 3:17; Genesis 2:24; Ephesians 5:22-25, 28 as the basis of this inerrant Scripturally established Definition of Marriage.

Under this Organization’s Marriage Policy, the Traditional Defense of Marriage is the only definition of marriage that will be recognized, accepted or performed. No elder, officer, employee, servant, agent, or any person, corporation, organization, or entity under the direction or control of this Organization shall commit any act or omission, or make any decision whatever, including but not limited to, allowing membership in this Organization, that would be

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inconsistent with, or that could be perceived by any person to be inconsistent with, full support of this Organization's Marriage Policy and strict adherence to the Traditional Definition of Marriage rather than any alternative to the Traditional Definition of Marriage.

This Organization's Marriage Policy specifically prohibits acts or omissions including but not limited to permitting any Organization's assets or property, whether real property, personal property, intangible property, or any property or asset of any kind that is subject to the direction or control of the Organization, to be used in any manner that would be or could be perceived by any person to be inconsistent with this Organization's Marriage Policy or the Traditional Definition of Marriage, including but not limited to permitting any Organization facilities to be used by any person, organization, corporation, or group that would or might use such facilities to convey, intentionally or by implication, what might be perceived as a favorable impression about any definition of marriage other than the Traditional Definition of Marriage. Allowing the use of our facilities or allowing anyone operating under the umbrella of our Organization for any purpose that contradicts the Organization's beliefs would not be acceptable to the stance of this Organization based on its beliefs and moral teachings.

We believe this Organization's Marriage Policy is based upon God's will for human life as conveyed to us through the Holy Scriptures, upon which this Organization has been founded and anchored, and this Marriage Policy shall not be subject to change through popular vote; referendum; prevailing opinion of members or the general public; influence of or interpretation by any government authority, agency, or official action; or legal developments on the local, state, or federal level.

To allow the facilities of this Organization or any member of our organization to use or perform any activity inconsistent with the belief of this Organization would have a severe negative impact on the message that this Organization strives to promote and protect within our communities and district.

ARTICLE VI – INDEMNITY OF DIRECTORS, OFFICERS AND EMPLOYEES

1. District Board may provide a corporate seal, which shall bear the name THE SOUTH CAROLINA DISTRICT OF THE UNITED PENTECOSTAL CHURCH INTERNATIONAL, INC.

PROHIBITION OF PERSONAL LIABILITY

No member of this corporation, nor any officer, or director shall, merely by virtue of such membership or office, or position, incur or be subject to any personal liability for any indebtedness or any acts or omissions of the corporation.

INDEMNIFICATION OF DIRECTORS, OFFICERS AND EMPLOYEES

The District shall indemnify any Director, officer or employee or former Director, officer or employee of the District, or any person who may have served at its request as a Director, officer or employee of another District, against expenses actually and necessarily incurred by him or her in connection with the defense of any action, suit or proceeding in which he or she is made party by reason of being having been such director, officer or employee, except in relation to matters as to which he or she shall be adjudged in such action, suit or proceeding to be liable for negligence or misconduct in the performance of duty. The District may also reimburse to any Director, officer of employee the reasonable costs of settlement of any such action, suit or proceeding if it shall be found by a majority of a Committee composed of the Directors not involved in the matter in controversy (whether or not a quorum) that it was to the best interest of the District that such settlement be made and that such Director, officer or employee was not guilty of negligence or misconduct. Such rights of indemnification and reimbursement shall not be deemed exclusive of any other right to which such Director, officer or employee may be entitled under any Bylaw, agreement, or otherwise.

FISCAL YEAR

The fiscal year of THE SOUTH CAROLINA DISTRICT OF THE UNITED PENTECOSTAL CHURCH INTERNATIONAL, INC., shall be the calendar year.

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MINISTERIAL OBLIGATIONS

Section 1: Fees

All ministers under the jurisdiction of the South Carolina District United Pentecostal Church International, Inc., being local licensed, general licensed or fully ordained, shall pay a monthly fee into the District according to the District fee schedule. The fee structure is as follows:

Local Licensed.....	\$80.00
General Licensed.....	\$90.00
Ordained.....	\$100.00

1. All ministerial fees and delinquent fees should be made in accordance with the District’s Financial Plan in the Financial Policies and Procedures.

AFFECT OF UNENFORCEABLE OR INVALID PROVISIONS

Should any provision within these Bylaws be found to be unenforceable, unlawful, or invalid, such finding shall not invalidate the entire Bylaws but shall affect only the subject unenforceable, unlawful, or invalid provision.

DISSOLUTION

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