

CHURCH OF THE NAZARENE

# MANUAL

1976



# **MANUAL / 1976**

## **CHURCH OF THE NAZARENE**

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**HISTORY  
CONSTITUTION  
GOVERNMENT  
RITUAL**

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## FOREWORD FOR 1976 MANUAL

A church must place its doctrines, standard of practical ethics, and polity within the grasp of all its constituents. The Church of the Nazarene has done so in this *Manual*.

Its people must come to union in strength through agreement on the basic creed, structure, and government of the church. This *Manual* is the written form of that great faith.

The history of the Church of the Nazarene is a matter of record. A brief historical statement is included to introduce the origins of the church to our people.

Our faith in the Bible as the inspired Word of God is made evident in the Constitution with its clear, concise statements of our doctrinal beliefs. The essential ethical standard and its expression of the Christian

life is proclaimed in the General and Special Rules to be guides and helps to holy living.

Our church government is the legacy of both laymen and our ministry. It presents the obligation and privilege to all members to have part in the operation of the church. Our government is representative; however, we believe in dedicated and responsible leadership by superintendency on district and general levels.

Since our church is committed to outreach in evangelism, the government of the church is directed to the achievement of our great objective; namely, to advance the kingdom of God on earth.

This *Manual* contains the decisions and judgment of the delegates, both ministers and laymen, who have met in session in the 1976 General Assembly which is the lawmaking body of the Church of the Nazarene. While our church accepts all the major doctrines of evangelical orthodoxy, as stated in the Articles of Faith, we have a definite commitment to proclaim the doctrine of Christian holiness. We believe it is an essential experience and provides the scriptural way of life for the Christian. This *Manual*, rooted in our history, grounded in the Scriptures, and clearly stating our doctrine and ethical practice, is to us all a most important book.

Since it states the faith and practice of our church so clearly related to the Scriptures, let all who are a part of the Church of the Nazarene seek to follow faithfully these tenets of doctrine and holiness ethics. To fail to do so is to imperil one's own soul and mar the witness and fellowship of the church.

In this day when the unregenerate need desperately a standard of human existence to benefit society, let

us provide the example in a great united witness of faith in Christ through righteous living. We offer this 1976 *Manual* to our people, believing in its usefulness as a service to all our members while we work together with our Lord through the agency of the Church of the Nazarene.

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PART I

# Historical Statement



## HISTORICAL STATEMENT

I. Near the close of the nineteenth century, a movement for the spread and conservation of scriptural holiness in organized church form developed almost simultaneously in various parts of the United States. This movement was similar to the Wesleyan revival of the previous century. The manifestation everywhere of a spontaneous drawing in the unity of the Spirit towards closer affiliation of those of like precious faith culminated finally in the organization of the Pentecostal Church of the Nazarene.

The great impulse of this movement has been the emphasis placed by the Scriptures upon the fact that, in the atonement, Jesus Christ has made provision, not only to save men from their sins, but also to perfect them in love.

II. On May 12, 1886, a number of the brethren in Providence, R.I., interested in promoting the Wesleyan doctrine and experience of entire sanctification, organized and held weekly religious services, first in private homes, but after a few months in a rented store on Oxford Street. On January 16, 1887, a Sunday school was organized with 95 members. On July 21, 1887, the People's Evangelical Church was organized with 51 members, Rev. F.A. Hillery acting as pastor. On November 25, 1888, the Mission Church, Lynn, Mass., was organized with Rev. C. Howard Davis as pastor. On March 13 and 14, 1890, representatives from these churches and other evangelical holiness organizations in southern New England assembled at Rock, Mass., and organized the Central Evangelical Holiness Association. Rev. W. C. Ryder, pastor of the Independent Congregational

Church of that place, was elected president. Within the following year the Mission Church, Malden, Mass., the Emmanuel Mission Church, North Attleboro, Mass., and the Bethany Mission Church, Keene, N.H., were organized.

In January, 1894, William Howard Hoople, a businessman in New York City, founded a mission in Brooklyn, which, in the following May, was organized as an independent church with a membership of 32, and was called the Utica Avenue Pentecostal Tabernacle. After a church edifice was erected, Mr. Hoople was called to the pastorate. The following February, in an abandoned church building, the Bedford Avenue Pentecostal Church was organized, and a little later the Emmanuel Pentecostal Tabernacle. In December, 1896, delegates from these three churches adopted a constitution, summary of doctrines, and bylaws, and formed the Association of Pentecostal Churches of America. This association was duly incorporated. Associated with Rev. William Howard Hoople in this work were Rev. H. B. Hosley, Rev. John Norberry, Rev. Charles BeVier, and Rev. H. F. Reynolds.

On November 12, 1896, a joint committee from these two associations met in the city of Brooklyn, N. Y., to formulate some plan of union. For the benefit of their counsel and cooperation, several brethren prominent in the work were invited to act with the joint committee. Among this number were Rev. C. Howard Davis, Rev. G. W. Wilson, Rev. John Norberry, Rev. H. F. Reynolds, Rev. H. B. Hosley, and Rev. Charles H. BeVier. This meeting resulted in the union of the two bodies. It was agreed that the work should be continued under the name of the Association of

Pentecostal Churches of America.

III. In October, 1895, a number of persons, under the leadership of Rev. Phineas F. Bresee, D.D., and J. P. Widney, M.D., formed the First Church of the Nazarene at Los Angeles, Calif., with 135 charter members. They adopted statements of belief, and agreed to such general rules as seemed proper and needful for their immediate guidance, leaving to the future the making of such provisions as the work and its conditions might necessitate. As a result of this organization a number of churches sprang into existence, reaching as far east as Chicago.

IV. As the group from the East and the group from the West came to know each other better, the feeling grew that they should unite. After delegates from both areas had conferred, the following basis of union was prepared and adopted unanimously by both bodies:

#### BASIS OF UNION

It is agreed that the two churches are one in the doctrines considered essential to salvation, especially the doctrines of justification by faith and entire sanctification subsequent to justification, also by faith, and as a result, the precious experience of entire sanctification as a normal condition of the churches. Both churches recognize that the right of church membership rests upon experience and that persons who have been born of the Spirit are entitled to its privileges.

We are agreed on the necessity of a superintendency, which shall foster and care for churches already established and whose duty it shall be to organize and encourage the organizing of churches everywhere.

We are agreed that authority given to superintendents shall not interfere with the independent action of a fully organized church, each church enjoying the right of selecting its own pastor, subject to such approval as the General Assembly shall find wise to institute; the election of delegates to the various assemblies; the management of their own finances; and of all other things pertaining to their local life and work.

It is agreed that any church of the Association of Pentecostal Churches of America going into this organization which may feel it imperative with them to continue to hold their property in like manner as at present, shall be at liberty to do so.

The first union assembly was held in Chicago in October, 1907. It was agreed that the name of the united body should be The Pentecostal Church of the Nazarene.

V. In 1894 at Milan, Tenn., the New Testament Church of Christ was organized with 14 members by Rev. R. L. Harris to conserve and promote scriptural holiness. The influence of this church soon spread throughout western Texas and Arkansas. Prominent among the leaders was Mrs. Mary Lee Cagle, formerly the wife of Rev. R. L. Harris, who continued the work after her husband's death.

In 1888 the first holiness churches in Texas were organized by Rev. Thomas Rogers and Rev. Dennis Rogers, who came from California.

In 1901 the first Independent Holiness church was organized at Van Alstyne, Tex., by Rev. C. B. Jernigan. This denomination grew and prospered until, in 1903, there were 20 church organizations.

The legal representatives of the Independent

Holiness church and the New Testament Church of Christ met at Rising Star, Tex., in November, 1904, where a joint committee framed a *Manual* and statement of doctrine and basis of union. The union was fully consummated at Pilot Point, Tex., in November, 1906, and the united body adopted the name Holiness Church of Christ.

VI. In 1907 several representatives from the Holiness Church of Christ accepted the invitation of the Pentecostal Church of the Nazarene to attend its General Assembly in Chicago, but were not authorized to take any action with reference to organic union. After the assembly invited them into counsel, provisional arrangements were made to incorporate the two churches into one body, when proper action could be taken. Upon the invitation of the Holiness Church of Christ, the Second General Assembly convened at Pilot Point, Tex., at two o'clock Thursday afternoon, October 8, 1908. On the following Tuesday morning, R. B. Mitcham moved: "That the union of the two churches be now consummated," and the motion was seconded by Rev. C. W. Ruth. Revs. John N. Short, J. B. Creighton, C. B. Jernigan, H. B. Hosley, P. F. Bresee, and others spoke favorably regarding the motion. On Tuesday, October 13, 1908, at 10:40 a. m., amid great enthusiasm, the motion to unite was adopted by a unanimous rising vote.

VII. In 1898 Rev. J. O. McClurkan and a few others called a meeting of the holiness people of Tennessee and adjacent states to be held in Nashville. At this convention an association known as the Pentecostal Alliance was formed, but its name was later changed to the Pentecostal Mission. From the beginning these

people were evangelistic in spirit and had a burning desire to disseminate the doctrine and experience of sanctification. Thus in different sections of the South there came together groups of holiness people, known as bands of the Pentecostal Mission. They were decidedly missionary in spirit, and soon were sending their representatives to "the regions beyond." Throughout their career they have been characterized by this missionary zeal.

At different times the question of the union of the Pentecostal Mission with the Pentecostal Church of the Nazarene had been discussed. Finally on February 13, 1915, this union was effected at Nashville, Tenn., thus uniting both the home and the foreign work of the Pentecostal Mission and the Pentecostal Church of the Nazarene.

VIII. In November, 1901, the first stage in the present holiness church movement in the British Isles began, when Rev. George Sharpe, who had been for 13½ years a preacher in the Methodist Episcopal church, accepted a call to the Congregational church at Ardrossan, Scotland. In September, 1906, he became minister of Parkhead Congregational Church, Glasgow; but after a strenuous, successful, and glorious ministry of 13 months, he was evicted for preaching Bible holiness.

On September 30, 1906, the first services of the first distinctively holiness church were held in the Great Eastern Roads Hall, Glasgow. The charter members numbered 80. Other churches were organized and became the Pentecostal Church of Scotland. Visits of Dr. E. F. Walker and Dr. H. F. Reynolds to Scotland, and a visit of Rev. George Sharpe and Mrs. Sharpe to the Fourth General Assembly, at Kansas City, Mo.,

led the way to union with the Church of the Nazarene, which was consummated in November, 1915.

IX. The General Assembly of 1919, in response to memorials from 35 district assemblies, changed the name of the organization to "Church of the Nazarene."

X. For many years a holiness movement had been developing in Minnesota, the Dakotas, and Montana. It was originated by a group of Methodist laymen, and was formally organized in 1917 at Jamestown, N.D., as the Laymen's Holiness Association. Rev. J. G. Morrison was immediately elected field evangelist and, in 1919, president of the organization. With him were associated Rev. Ira E. Hammer, Rev. S. C. Taylor, Rev. W. G. Bennett, and over 20 other evangelists and workers engaged in a widespread program of holiness evangelism and camp meeting promotion. In 1922, under the leadership of these ministers, more than 1,000 people identified with the Laymen's Holiness Association united with the Church of the Nazarene.

XI. During the quadrennium 1952-56, two holiness groups in Britain merged with the Church of the Nazarene.

The International Holiness Mission, founded in London, England, in 1907 by Mr. David Thomas, businessman and lay preacher, consummated union with the Church of the Nazarene in Leeds, England, October 29, 1952, with General Superintendent Hardy C. Powers officiating. At the time of union, Mr. John Place was president of the International Holiness Mission, and Rev. J. B. MacLagan, who for 22 years had been a minister in the Church of the Nazarene in the British Isles, was superintendent-minister. The union brought 28 churches, over 1,000 constituents, and 36

missionaries in South Africa into the Church of the Nazarene.

For about 25 years the Calvary Holiness church of Britain carried on its ministry of holiness evangelism under the leadership of Rev. Maynard James and Rev. Jack Ford. Union of the Calvary Holiness church with the Church of the Nazarene was consummated June 11, 1955, at Manchester, England, with General Superintendent Samuel Young officiating. About 22 churches and over 600 members came into the church as a result of this union.

XII. The Gospel Workers church of Canada united with the Church of the Nazarene on September 7, 1958. Under the leadership of Rev. Albert Mills, president, and Rev. C. J. McNichol, secretary, the union took place with Mr. Samuel Goff, son of the founder, Rev. Frank D. Goff, of the Gospel Workers church, acting as attorney in the negotiations. The union was completed under the supervision of General Superintendent Samuel Young and added five churches and 200 members to the Canada Central District.



PART II

# **Church Constitution**

**ARTICLES OF FAITH**

**THE CHURCH**

**ARTICLES OF ORGANIZATION AND  
GOVERNMENT**

**AMENDMENTS**

## PREAMBLE OF CONSTITUTION

In order that we may preserve our God-given heritage, the faith once delivered to the saints, especially the doctrine and experience of sanctification as a second work of grace, and also that we may cooperate effectually with other branches of the Church of Jesus Christ in advancing God's kingdom among men, we, the ministers and lay members of the Church of the Nazarene, in accordance with the principles of constitutional legislation established among us, do hereby ordain, adopt, and set forth as the fundamental law or constitution of the Church of the Nazarene the Articles of Faith, the General Rules, and the Articles of Organization and Government here following, to wit:

### ARTICLES OF FAITH

#### I. *The Triune God*

1. We believe in one eternally existent, infinite God, Sovereign of the universe; that He only is God, creative and administrative, holy in nature, attributes, and purpose; that He, as God, is Triune in essential being, revealed as Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.

#### II. *Jesus Christ*

2. We believe in Jesus Christ, the Second Person of the Triune Godhead; that He was eternally one with the Father; that He became incarnate by the Holy Spirit and was born of the Virgin Mary, so that two whole and perfect natures, that is to say the Godhead

and manhood, are thus united in one person very God and very man, the God-man.

We believe that Jesus Christ died for our sins, and that He truly arose from the dead and took again His body, together with all things appertaining to the perfection of man's nature, wherewith He ascended into heaven and is there engaged in intercession for us.

### III. *The Holy Spirit*

3. We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Third Person of the Triune Godhead, that He is ever present and efficiently active in and with the Church of Christ, convincing the world of sin, regenerating those who repent and believe, sanctifying believers, and guiding into all truth as it is in Jesus.

### IV. *The Holy Scriptures*

4. We believe in the plenary inspiration of the Holy Scriptures, by which we understand the sixty-six books of the Old and New Testaments, given by divine inspiration, inerrantly revealing the will of God concerning us in all things necessary to our salvation, so that whatever is not contained therein is not to be enjoined as an article of faith.

### V. *Original Sin, or Depravity*

5. We believe that original sin, or depravity, is that corruption of the nature of all the offspring of Adam by reason of which every one is very far gone from original righteousness or the pure state of our first parents at the time of their creation, is averse to God,

is without spiritual life, and inclined to evil, and that continually. We further believe that original sin continues to exist with the new life of the regenerate, until eradicated by the baptism with the Holy Spirit.

#### VI. *Atonement*

6. We believe that Jesus Christ, by His sufferings, by the shedding of His own blood, and by His meritorious death on the Cross, made a full atonement for all human sin, and that this atonement is the only ground of salvation, and that it is sufficient for every individual of Adam's race. The atonement is graciously efficacious for the salvation of the irresponsible and for the children in innocency, but is efficacious for the salvation of those who reach the age of responsibility only when they repent and believe.

#### VII. *Free Agency*

7. We believe that man's creation in Godlikeness included ability to choose between right and wrong, and that thus he was made morally responsible; that through the fall of Adam he became depraved so that he cannot now turn and prepare himself by his own natural strength and works to faith and calling upon God. But we also believe that the grace of God through Jesus Christ is freely bestowed upon all men, enabling all who will to turn from sin to righteousness, believe on Jesus Christ for pardon and cleansing from sin, and follow good works pleasing and acceptable in His sight.

We believe that man, though in the possession of the experience of regeneration and entire sanctification, may fall from grace and apostatize and, unless he repent of his sin, be hopelessly and eternally lost.

VIII. *Repentance*

8. We believe that repentance, which is a sincere and thorough change of the mind in regard to sin, involving a sense of personal guilt and a voluntary turning away from sin, is demanded of all who have by act or purpose become sinners against God. The Spirit of God gives to all who will repent the gracious help of penitence of heart and hope of mercy, that they may believe unto pardon and spiritual life.

IX. *Justification, Regeneration, and Adoption*

9. We believe that justification is the gracious and judicial act of God by which He grants full pardon of all guilt and complete release from the penalty of sins committed, and acceptance as righteous, to all who believe on Jesus Christ and receive Him as Lord and Saviour.

10. We believe that regeneration, or the new birth, is that gracious work of God whereby the moral nature of the repentant believer is spiritually quickened and given a distinctively spiritual life, capable of faith, love, and obedience.

11. We believe that adoption is that gracious act of God by which the justified and regenerated believer is constituted a son of God.

12. We believe that justification, regeneration, and adoption are simultaneous in the experience of seekers after God and are obtained upon the condition of faith, preceded by repentance; and that to this work and state of grace the Holy Spirit bears witness.

X. *Entire Sanctification*

13. We believe that entire sanctification is that act of God, subsequent to regeneration, by which believers are made free from original sin, or depravity, and brought into a state of entire devotement to God, and the holy obedience of love made perfect.

It is wrought by the baptism with the Holy Spirit, and comprehends in one experience the cleansing of the heart from sin and the abiding indwelling presence of the Holy Spirit, empowering the believer for life and service.

Entire sanctification is provided by the blood of Jesus, is wrought instantaneously by faith, preceded by entire consecration; and to this work and state of grace the Holy Spirit bears witness.

This experience is also known by various terms representing its different phases, such as "Christian perfection," "perfect love," "heart purity," "the baptism with the Holy Spirit," "the fullness of the blessing," and "Christian holiness."

14. We believe that there is a marked distinction between a pure [perfect] heart and a *mature* [perfect] character. The former is obtained in an instant, the result of entire sanctification; the latter is the result of growth in grace.

*We believe that the grace of entire sanctification includes the impulse to grow in grace. However, this impulse must be consciously nurtured, and careful attention given to the requisites and processes of*

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\*An amendment now being voted on by districts, if confirmed, will change paragraph 14 by deleting words in parentheses and adding words in italics.

*spiritual development and improvement in Christ-likeness of character and personality. Without such purposeful endeavor one's witness may be impaired and the grace itself frustrated and ultimately lost.*

### XI. *Second Coming of Christ*

15. We believe that the Lord Jesus Christ will come again; that we who are alive at His coming shall not precede them that are asleep in Christ Jesus; but that, if we are abiding in Him, we shall be caught up with the risen saints to meet the Lord in the air, so that we shall ever be with the Lord.

### XII. *Resurrection, Judgment, and Destiny*

16. We believe in the resurrection of the dead, that the bodies both of the just and of the unjust shall be raised to life and united with their spirits—"they that have done good, unto the resurrection of life; and they that have done evil, unto the resurrection of damnation."

17. We believe in future judgment in which every man shall appear before God to be judged according to his deeds in this life.

18. We believe that glorious and everlasting life is assured to all who savingly believe in, and obediently follow, Jesus Christ our Lord; and that the finally impenitent shall suffer eternally in hell.

### XIII. *Baptism*

19. We believe that Christian baptism is a sacrament signifying acceptance of the benefits of the atonement of Jesus Christ, to be administered to

believers as declarative of their faith in Jesus Christ as their Saviour, and full purpose of obedience in holiness and righteousness.

Baptism being the symbol of the New Testament, young children may be baptized, upon request of parents or guardians who shall give assurance for them of necessary Christian training.

Baptism may be administered by sprinkling, pouring, or immersion, according to the choice of the applicant.

#### XIV. *The Lord's Supper*

20. We believe that the Memorial and Communion Supper instituted by our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ is essentially a New Testament sacrament, declarative of His sacrificial death, through the merits of which believers have life and salvation and promise of all spiritual blessings in Christ. It is distinctively for those who are prepared for reverent appreciation of its significance and by it they show forth the Lord's death till He come again. It being the Communion feast, only those who have faith in Christ and love for the saints should be called to participate therein.

#### XV. *Divine Healing*

21. We believe in the Bible doctrine of divine healing and urge our people to seek to offer the prayer of faith for the healing of the sick. Providential means and agencies when deemed necessary should not be refused.

## THE CHURCH

### I. The General Church

22. The Church of God is composed of all spiritually regenerate persons, whose names are written in heaven.

### II. The Churches Severally

23. The churches severally are to be composed of such regenerate persons as by providential permission, and by the leadings of the Holy Spirit, become associated together for holy fellowship and ministries.

### III. The Church of The Nazarene

24. The Church of the Nazarene is composed of those persons who have voluntarily associated themselves together according to the doctrines and polity of said church, and who seek holy Christian fellowship, the conversion of sinners, the entire sanctification of believers, their upbuilding in holiness, and the simplicity and spiritual power manifest in the primitive New Testament Church, together with the preaching of the gospel to every creature.

### IV. Agreed Statement of Belief

25. Recognizing that the right and privilege of persons to church membership rest upon the fact of their being regenerate, we would require only such avowals of belief as are essential to Christian experience. We, therefore, deem belief in the following brief statements to be sufficient. We believe:

25.1. In one God—the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.

25.2. That the Old and New Testament Scriptures, given by plenary inspiration, contain all truth necessary to faith and Christian living.

25.3. That man is born with a fallen nature, and is, therefore, inclined to evil, and that continually.

25.4. That the finally impenitent are hopelessly and eternally lost.

25.5. That the atonement through Jesus Christ is for the whole human race; and that whosoever repents and believes on the Lord Jesus Christ is justified and regenerated and saved from the dominion of sin.

25.6. That believers are to be sanctified wholly, subsequent to regeneration, through faith in the Lord Jesus Christ.

25.7. That the Holy Spirit bears witness to the new birth, and also to the entire sanctification of believers.

25.8. That our Lord will return, the dead will be raised, and the final judgment will take place.

#### V. *The General Rules*

**\*\*26.** To be identified with the visible Church is the blessed privilege and sacred duty of all who are saved from their sins, and are seeking completeness in Christ Jesus. It is required of all who desire to unite with the Church of the Nazarene, and thus to walk in fellowship with us, that they shall show evidence of

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*\*\*These Rules, along with the Special Rules and applicable Appendices, have been revised and rearranged in keeping with action of the General Assembly, and the necessary resolution effecting these amendments is now being voted on by districts. Cf. paragraphs 32-39. If confirmed it will change paragraph 26 by deleting words in parentheses and adding words in italics.*

salvation from their sins by a godly walk and vital piety; and that they shall be, or earnestly desire to be, cleansed from all indwelling sin. They shall evidence (this) their commitment to God—

*FIRST. (SECOND)* By doing that which is enjoined in the Word of God, which is our rule of both faith and practice, including:

(1) Loving God with all the heart, soul, mind and strength, and one's neighbor as oneself [*Exodus 20:3-6; Leviticus 19:17-18; Deuteronomy 5:7-10; 6:4-5; Mark 12:28-31; Romans 13:8-10*].

(2) Pressing upon the attention of the unsaved the claims of the gospel, inviting them to the house of the Lord, and trying to compass their salvation [*Matthew 28:19-20; Acts 1:8; Romans 1:14-16; 2 Corinthians 5:18-20*].

(3) Being courteous to all men [*Ephesians 4:32; Titus 3:2; 1 Peter 2:17; 1 John 3:18*].

(4) Being helpful to those who are also (of the household) of the faith, in love forbearing one another [*Romans 12:13; Galatians 6:2, 10; Colossians 3:12-14*].

(5) Seeking to do good to the bodies and souls of men; feeding the hungry, clothing the naked, visiting the sick and imprisoned, and ministering to the needy, as opportunity and ability are given [*Matthew 25:35-36; 2 Corinthians 9:8-10; Galatians 2:10; James 2:15-16; 1 John 3:17-18*].

(6) Contributing to the support of the ministry and the church and its work in tithes and offerings (according to the ability which God giveth.) [*Malachi 3:10; Luke 6:38; 1 Corinthians 9:14; 16:2; 2 Corinthians 9:8-10; Philippians 4:15-19*].

(7) Attending faithfully all the ordinances of God, and the means of grace, including the public worship of God [*Hebrews 10:25*], the ministry of the Word [*Acts 2:42*], the sacrament of the Lord's Supper [*1 Corinthians 11:23-30*]; searching the Scriptures and meditating thereon [*Acts 17:11*; *2 Timothy 2:15*; *3:14-16*]; family and private devotions [*Deuteronomy 6:5-7*; *Matthew 6:6*].

SECOND. (FIRST) By avoiding evil of every kind, including:

(1) Taking the name of God in vain [*Exodus 20:7*; *Leviticus 19:12*; *James 5:12*].

(2) Profaning of the Lord's day by participation in unnecessary secular activities, thereby indulging in practices which deny its sanctity (either by unnecessary labor, or business, or by the patronizing or reading of secular papers, or by holiday diversions) [*Exodus 20:8-11*; *Isaiah 58:13-14*; *Mark 2:27-28*; *Acts 20:7*; *Revelation 1:10*].

(3) Sexual immorality, such as premarital or extramarital relations, perversion in any form, or looseness and impropriety of conduct [*Exodus 20:14*; *Matthew 5:27-32*; *1 Corinthians 6:9-11*; *Galatians 5:19*; *1 Thessalonians 4:3-7*].

(4) Habits or practices known to be destructive of physical and mental well-being. Christians are to regard themselves as temples of the Holy Spirit (Using of intoxicating liquors as a beverage or trafficking therein; giving influence to, or voting for, the licensing of places for the sale of the same; using tobacco in any of its forms or trafficking therein) [*Proverbs 20:1*; *23:1-3*; *1 Corinthians 6:17-20*; *2 Corinthians 7:1*; *Ephesians 5:18*].

(5) Quarreling, returning evil for evil, gossiping, slandering, spreading surmises injurious to the good names of others [*2 Corinthians 12:20; Galatians 5:15; Ephesians 4:30-32; James 3:5-18; 1 Peter 3:9-10*].

(6) Dishonesty, taking advantage in buying and selling, bearing false witness, and like works of darkness [*Leviticus 19:10-11; Romans 12:17; 1 Corinthians 6:7-10*].

(7) The indulging of pride in dress or behavior. Our people are to dress with the Christian simplicity and modesty that become holiness [*Proverbs 29:23; 1 Timothy 2:8-10; James 4:6, 1 Peter 3:3-4; 1 John 2:15-17*].

(8) Music, literature, and entertainments that dishonor God (the theater, the ballroom, the circus, and like places; also, lotteries and games of chance; . . . membership in or fellowship with oath-bound secret orders or fraternities) [*1 Corinthians 10:31; 2 Corinthians 6:14-17; James 4:4*].

**THIRD.** By abiding in hearty fellowship with the church, not inveighing against but wholly committed to its doctrines and usages and actively involved in its continuing witness and outreach (but being in full sympathy and conformity therewith) [*Ephesians 2:18-22; 4:1-3, 11-16; Philippians 2:1-8; 1 Peter 2:9-10*].

## ARTICLES OF ORGANIZATION AND GOVERNMENT

### *Article I. Form of Government*

27. The Church of the Nazarene has a representative form of government.

27.1. We are agreed on the necessity of a superintendency which shall foster and care for churches already established, and whose duty it shall be to organize and encourage the organizing of churches everywhere.

27.2. We are agreed that authority given to superintendents shall not interfere with the independent action of a fully organized church. Each church shall enjoy the right to select its own pastor, subject to such approval as the General Assembly shall find wise to institute. Each church shall also elect delegates to the various assemblies, manage its own finances, and have charge of all other matters pertaining to its local life and work.

### *Article II. Local Churches*

28. The membership of a local church shall consist of all who have been organized as a church by those authorized so to do and who have been publicly received by those having proper authority, after having declared their experience of salvation, their belief in our doctrines, and their willingness to submit to our government. [100-107]

### *Article III. District Assemblies*

29. The General Assembly shall organize the membership of the church into District Assemblies, giving such lay and ministerial representation therein as the General Assembly may deem fair and just, and shall determine qualifications of such representatives, provided, however, that all elders in good standing shall be members thereof. The General Assembly

shall also fix the boundaries of Assembly Districts, and define the powers and duties of District Assemblies. [200-201]

#### *Article IV. The General Assembly*

**30.1. How Composed.** The General Assembly shall be composed of ministerial and lay delegates in equal numbers, elected thereto by District Assemblies of the Church of the Nazarene; such ex officio members as the General Assembly shall from time to time direct; and such delegates of districts under the administration of the Departments of World Mission and Home Missions of the Church of the Nazarene as may be provided for by the General Assembly.

**30.2. Election of Delegates.** At a District Assembly within 16 months of the meeting of the General Assembly an equal number of ministerial and lay delegates to the General Assembly shall be chosen as may be provided by the General Assembly, and provided that the ministerial delegates shall be elders of the Church of the Nazarene. Each assembly district shall be entitled to at least one ministerial and one lay delegate, and such additional delegates as its membership may warrant on the basis of representation fixed by the General Assembly. Each assembly district shall elect alternate delegates not exceeding the number of its delegates. [203:29, 301-1.1]

**30.3. Credentials.** The secretary of each District Assembly shall furnish certificates of election to the delegates and alternates severally elected to the General Assembly, and shall also send certificates of such elections to the general secretary of the Church of the Nazarene immediately following the adjournment of the District Assembly.

**30.4. Quorum.** When the General Assembly is in session, a majority of the whole number of delegates elected thereto shall constitute a quorum for the transaction of business. If a quorum has once been had, a smaller number may approve the minutes then remaining unapproved, and adjourn.

**30.5. General Superintendents.** The General Assembly shall elect by ballot from among the elders of the Church of the Nazarene as many general superintendents as it may deem necessary, who shall constitute the Board of General Superintendents. Any vacancy in the office of general superintendent in the interim of General Assemblies shall be filled by a two-thirds vote of all the district superintendents of the Church of the Nazarene. [305.1]

**30.6. Presiding Officers.** A general superintendent appointed thereto by the Board of General Superintendents shall preside over the daily meetings of the General Assembly. But if no general superintendent be so appointed or be present, the General Assembly shall elect one of its members as temporary presiding officer. [300.1]

**30.7. Rules of Order.** The General Assembly shall adopt Rules of Order governing its manner of organization, procedure, committees, and all other matters pertaining to the orderly conduct of its business. It shall be the judge of the election and qualifications of its own members. [300.2]

**30.8. General Court of Appeals.** The General Assembly shall elect from among members of the Church of the Nazarene a General Court of Appeals and shall define its jurisdiction and powers. [305.8]

**30.9. Powers and Restrictions.**

(1) The General Assembly shall have power to legislate for the Church of the Nazarene, and to

make rules and regulations for all the departments related to or associated with it in any respect, but not in conflict with this Constitution. [300, 305-5.14]

(2) No local church shall be deprived of the right to call its pastor, subject to such approval as the General Assembly shall find wise to institute. [122]

(3) All local churches, officers, ministers, and laymen shall always have the right to a fair and orderly trial and the right to make an appeal.

### AMENDMENTS

\*31. The provisions of this Constitution may be repealed or amended when concurred in by a two-thirds vote of all the members of the General Assembly, and when concurred in by not less than two-thirds of all the *Regular and Mission District Assemblies* of the Church of the Nazarene. Either the General Assembly or any *Regular or Mission District Assembly* may take the initiative in the matter of proposing such alterations or amendments. As soon as such alterations or amendments shall have been adopted as herein provided, the result of the vote shall be announced by the Board of General Superintendents, whereupon such alterations or amendments shall have full force and effect.

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\*An amendment now being voted on by districts, if confirmed, will change paragraph 31 by adding words in italics.

PART III

# **Special Rules**

**THE CHRISTIAN LIFE**

**MARRIAGE AND DIVORCE AND/OR  
DISSOLUTION OF MARRIAGE**

**ABORTION**

**HOMOSEXUALITY**

**CHRISTIAN STEWARDSHIP**

**CHURCH OFFICERS**

**AMENDING SPECIAL RULES**

## A. THE CHRISTIAN LIFE

32. The church joyfully proclaims the good news that we may be delivered from all sin to a new life in Christ. By the grace of God we Christians are to "put off the old"—the old patterns of conduct as well as the old carnal mind—and are to "put on the new"—a new and holy way of life as well as the mind of Christ (Ephesians 4:17-24).

32.1. The Church of the Nazarene purposes to relate timeless biblical principles to contemporary society in such a way that the doctrines and rules of the church may be known and understood in many lands and within a variety of cultures. We hold that the Ten Commandments, as reaffirmed in the New Testament, constitute the basic Christian ethic and ought to be obeyed in all particulars.

32.2. It is further recognized that there is validity in the concept of the collective Christian conscience as illuminated and guided by the Holy Spirit. The Church of the Nazarene, as an international expression of the body of Christ, acknowledges its responsibility to seek ways to particularize the Christian life so as to lead to a holiness ethic. The historic ethical standards of the church are expressed in part in the following items. They should be followed carefully and conscientiously as guides and helps to holy living. Those who violate the conscience of the church do so at their own peril and to the hurt of the witness of the church. Culturally conditioned adaptations shall be referred to and approved by the Board of General Superintendents.

32.3. In listing practices to be avoided we recognize that no catalog, however inclusive, can hope to en-

compass all forms of evil throughout the world. Therefore it is imperative that our people earnestly seek the aid of the Spirit in cultivating a sensitivity to evil which transcends the mere letter of the law; remembering the admonition: "Prove all things; hold fast that which is good. Abstain from all appearance of evil" (1 Thessalonians 5:21-22).

32.4. Our leaders and pastors are expected to give strong emphasis in our periodicals and from our pulpits to such fundamental biblical truths as will develop the faculty of discrimination between the evil and the good.

33. We hold specifically that the following practices should be avoided:

33.1. Entertainments which are subversive of Christian morals. Our people should govern themselves by three principles. One is the Christian stewardship of leisure time. A second principle is the recognition of the Christian obligation to apply the highest moral standards to the home. Since we are living in a day of great moral confusion in which we face the potential encroachment of the evils of the day into the sacred precincts of our homes through various avenues such as current literature, radio, and television, it is essential that the most rigid safeguards be observed. The third principle is the obligation to witness against social evils by appropriate forms of influence, and the refusal to patronize and thereby lend influence to the industries which are known to be purveyors of this kind of entertainment. This would include the avoidance of the motion picture theater (cinema), together with such other commercial ventures which feature the cheap, the violent, or the sensual and pornographic [904.9] and thus undermine

God's standard of holiness of heart and life.

33.2. Lotteries and other forms of gambling, whether legal or illegal. The church holds that the final result of these practices is detrimental both to the individual and society.

33.3. Membership in oath-bound secret orders or societies. The quasi-religious nature of such organizations dilutes the Christian's commitment and their secrecy contravenes the Christian's open witness.

33.4. All forms of social dancing. We hold that such practices tend to break down proper inhibitions and reserve between the sexes.

33.5. The use of intoxicating liquors as a beverage, or trafficking therein; giving influence to, or voting for, the licensing of places for the sale of the same; using illicit drugs or trafficking therein; using of tobacco in any of its forms, or trafficking therein. [904.4]

The Holy Scriptures and human experience together justify the condemnation of the use of intoxicating drinks as a beverage. The manufacture and sale of liquors for such purposes is a sin against God and the human race. Total abstinence from all intoxicants should be the Christian rule for the individual, and total prohibition of the traffic in intoxicants the duty of civil government.

(Only unfermented wine and unleavened bread should be used in the sacrament of the Lord's Supper.) [115.10, 403.6, 404, 802]

33.6. The unprescribed use of hallucinogenics, stimulants, and depressants, and the misuse and abuse of regularly prescribed medicines. Only on competent medical advice and under medical supervision should such drugs be used.

## B. MARRIAGE AND DIVORCE AND/OR DISSOLUTION OF MARRIAGE

(The meaning of divorce in this rule shall include "dissolution of marriage" when it is used as a legal substitute for divorce.)

34. The Christian family, knit together in a common bond through Jesus Christ, is a circle of love, fellowship, and worship to be earnestly cultivated in a society in which family ties are easily dissolved. We urge upon the ministry and congregations of our church such teachings and practices as will strengthen and develop family ties.

The institution of marriage was ordained of God in the time of man's innocency, and is, according to apostolic authority, "honourable in all"; it is the mutual union of one man and one woman for fellowship, helpfulness, and the propagation of the race. Our people should cherish this sacred estate as becomes Christians, and should enter it only after earnest prayer for divine direction, and when assured that the contemplated union is in accordance with scriptural requirements. They should seek earnestly the blessings which God has ordained in connection with the wedded state, namely, holy companionship, parenthood, and mutual love—the elements of home building. The marriage covenant is morally binding so long as both shall live, and therefore, may not be dissolved at will.

34.1. Ministers of the Church of the Nazarene are instructed to give due care to matters relating to solemnizing marriages. They shall seek, in every manner possible, to convey to their congregations the sacredness of Christian marriage. They shall provide

premarital counseling in every instance possible before performing a marriage ceremony. They shall only solemnize marriages of persons having the scriptural right to marry. [107-7.1, 401.5]

**34.2.** Members of the Church of the Nazarene are to seek prayerfully a redemptive course of action when involved in marital unhappiness, in full harmony with their vows and the clear teachings of the Scripture, their aim being to save the home and safeguard the good name of both Christ and His Church. Couples having serious marital problems are urged to seek counsel and guidance of their pastor. Failure to comply with this procedure in good faith and with sincere endeavor to seek a Christian solution, and subsequent obtainment of an unscriptural divorce and remarriage, makes one or both parties subject to discipline as prescribed in 501.

**34.3.** Though there may exist such other causes and conditions as may justify a divorce under the civil law, only adultery is a scriptural ground for divorce and only adultery will supply such ground as may justify the innocent party in remarrying. (Matthew 5:31-32; 19:3-9)

**34.4.** Through ignorance, sin, and human frailties, many in our society fall short of the divine ideal. We believe that Christ can redeem these persons even as He did the woman at Samaria's well. Where the scriptural ground for divorce did not exist and remarriage followed, the marriage partners, upon genuine repentance for their sin, are enjoined to seek the forgiving grace of God and His redemptive help in their marriage relation. Such persons may be received into the membership of the church at such time as they have given evidence of their regeneration and an awareness

of their understanding of the sanctity of Christian marriage. [26.4, 107.1]

### C. ABORTION

35. We believe induced abortion to be permissible only on the basis of sound medical reasons affecting the life of the fetus and that of the mother. We oppose induced abortion for personal convenience or population control. We also oppose liberalizing of the laws which allow induced abortion on demand. There may be pregnancies that require deliberate termination by therapeutic abortion, but such a decision should be made only on the basis of adequate medical and spiritual counseling.

### D. HOMOSEXUALITY

36. We recognize the depth of the perversion that leads to homosexual acts, but affirm the biblical position that such acts are sinful and subject to the wrath of God. We believe the grace of God sufficient to overcome the practice of homosexuality (1 Corinthians 6:9-11). We deplore any action or statement that would seem to imply compatibility between Christian morality and the practice of homosexuality. We urge clear preaching and teaching concerning Bible standards of sex morality.

### E. CHRISTIAN STEWARDSHIP

37. *Meaning of Stewardship.* The Scriptures teach that God is the Owner of all persons and all things, that men are His stewards of both life and possessions, that God's ownership and man's stewardship

ought to be acknowledged, and that men shall be held personally accountable to God for the exercise of their stewardship. God, as a God of system and order in all of His ways, has established a system of giving which acknowledges His ownership and man's stewardship. To this end all His children should faithfully tithe and present offerings for the support of the gospel. [147, 362]

**37.1. Storehouse Tithing.** Storehouse tithing is a scriptural and practical performance of faithfully and regularly placing the tithe into that church to which the member belongs. Therefore, the financing of the church shall be based on the plan of storehouse tithing, and the local Church of the Nazarene shall be regarded by all of its people as the storehouse. All who are a part of the Church of the Nazarene are urged to contribute faithfully one-tenth of all their increase as a minimum financial obligation to the Lord and freewill offerings in addition as God has prospered them for the support of the whole church, local, district, zonal, and general.

**37.2. Fund Raising and Distribution.** In the light of the scriptural teaching concerning the giving of tithes and offerings for the support of the gospel, and for the erection of church buildings, no Nazarene church should engage in any method of fund raising which would detract from these principles, hinder the gospel message, sully the name of the church, discriminate against the poor, nor misdirect the people's energies from promoting the gospel.

In disbursing to meet the requirements of the local, district, zonal, and general programs of the Church of the Nazarene, local churches are urged to adopt and practice the budget plan, and to pay general, zonal, and district apportionments monthly. [115.21, 137, 173-74]

**37.3 Support of the Ministry.** "Even so hath the Lord ordained that they which preach the gospel should live of the gospel" (1 Corinthians 9:14). The church is obligated to support its ministers, who have been called of God, and who, under the direction of the church, have given themselves wholly to the work of the ministry. We urge therefore that the members of the church voluntarily commit themselves to the task of supporting the ministry by gathering money weekly for this holy business and that the pastor's salary be paid regularly every week. [128]

**37.4. Life Income Gifts and Bequests.** It is essential in the exercise of Christian stewardship that careful thought be given as to what shall be done with the residue of one's income and possessions over which the Lord makes the Christian a steward during his life. Civil laws often do not provide for the distribution of an estate in such a way as to glorify God. Each Christian should give attention to the preparation of his last will and testament in a careful and legal manner, and the Church of the Nazarene through its various ministries of missions, evangelism, education, and benevolences—local, district, zonal, and general—is recommended for consideration. [362.8–63.2]

## F. CHURCH OFFICERS

**38.** We direct our local churches in selecting their church officers to elect only such as are clearly in the experience of entire sanctification. [112.10, 156.5, 164]

## G. AMENDING SPECIAL RULES

**39.** The provisions of these Special Rules may be repealed or amended when concurred in by a two-thirds vote of all the members of a given General Assembly.

PART IV

# **Government**

**THE LOCAL CHURCH**

**THE DISTRICT ASSEMBLY**

**THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY**

## PREAMBLE TO GOVERNMENT

All life must have law; all organization must have government. He who is Head over all things unto the Church himself gave form and order unto His body of followers and representatives. We seek as a church to conform to principles of government in accord with the Holy Scriptures and divine providences, that all things may be done scripturally, decently, and in order.

The government of the Church of the Nazarene is representative, and thus avoids the extremes of episcopacy on the one hand, and unlimited congregationalism on the other.

### CHAPTER I

#### THE LOCAL CHURCH

##### **A. Organization, Name, Incorporation, Property, Restrictions, Mergers, Disorganization**

**100. Organization.** Local churches may be organized by the district superintendent, or by the general superintendent having jurisdiction, or by an elder authorized by either of them. Official reports of new churches shall be filed in the Department of Home Missions. [28, 208.1, 310, 352, 404.9]

**101. Name.** The name of a newly organized church shall be determined by the local church in consultation with the district superintendent and with the approval of the District Advisory Board.

**101.1. Change of Name.** A local Church of the Nazarene may change its name by a majority ballot vote in an annual or special meeting of the church

membership. Processes for the change shall be: (a) The local church board submits the proposed change to the district superintendent who shall obtain the written approval of the District Advisory Board; (b) the local church votes; (c) The District Advisory Board reports the change to the District Assembly, and the District Assembly votes approval of the same.

**102.** *Incorporation.* In all places where the statutes will permit, the trustees shall have the local church incorporated and the said trustees and their successors shall be the trustees of the said corporation. Where not inconsistent with civil law, the articles of incorporation shall set forth the powers of the corporation and provide that the corporation shall be subject to the government of the Church of the Nazarene, as from time to time authorized and declared in its *Manual* by the General Assembly of said church. All the property of this corporation shall be managed and controlled by the trustees subject to the approval of the local church.

**102.1.** Where property is purchased and developed by the District Advisory Board for a local church or where a new church is formed, upon the repayment of the money invested by the District Advisory Board by the local church, it is deemed advisable that the District Advisory Board transfer the title to the local church. [235.3, 352.5]

**102.2.** When a local church is incorporated, all property acquired shall be deeded directly to the church in its corporate name when it is possible to do so.

**102.3.** The pastor and the secretary of the church board shall be the president and secretary of the church, incorporated or not incorporated, and shall

execute and sign all conveyances of real estate, mortgages, releases of mortgage, contracts, and other legal documents of the church not otherwise provided for in the *Manual* and subject to the restrictions set forth in 104-4.2.

103. *Property.* The local church contemplating the purchase of real estate, or the erection of a church building or parsonage, or a major remodeling of either, shall submit the proposition to the district superintendent and the District Board of Church Properties for their consideration, advice, and approval. No indebtedness, whether involving a mortgage or not, shall be incurred in the purchase of real estate or the erection of buildings or a major remodeling of either, without the written approval of the district superintendent and the written approval of the District Board of Church Properties.

103.1. In case agreement cannot be reached between the church board and the district superintendent and the Board of Church Properties, the issue may be submitted to the general superintendent having jurisdiction for his decision. Either the church or the district superintendent may appeal such decision to the Board of General Superintendents for a final decision.

104. *Restrictions.* The local church may not purchase real estate, nor sell, mortgage, exchange, or otherwise dispose of real estate except by majority vote of the members present at an annual meeting, or at a special meeting duly called for that purpose, and except upon the written approval of the district superintendent, and the written approval of the District Board of Church Properties. [112.6, 112.12]

104.1. The real estate of the local church shall not

be mortgaged to meet current expenses.

**104.2. Trustees and/or a local church may not divert property from the use of the Church of the Nazarene.** [112-12.1]

**104.3. Withdrawal of Churches.** No local church may withdraw as a body from the Church of the Nazarene, or in any way sever its relation thereto, except by provision of the General Assembly, and upon agreed conditions and plans.

**105. Mergers.** Two or more local churches may be merged upon two-thirds favorable vote by ballot of the members of the churches present and voting at specially called meetings of the churches involved, provided: The merger shall be recommended by a majority vote by ballot of all the members of the respective church boards and provided the merger shall have been approved in writing by the district superintendent, the District Advisory Board, and the general superintendent in jurisdiction. Upon the notification by the district superintendent, the general secretary of the Church of the Nazarene is authorized to remove the names of the inactive churches from the roll of churches.

The merger shall be finalized in a special meeting of the new congregation for the purpose of electing officers and making pastoral arrangements. The district superintendent, or an elder appointed by him, shall preside.

The organization thus created shall combine the total membership of the former churches, the membership of all departments of those churches, and the assets and liabilities of those churches, including budget allocations.

**106. Disorganization of Churches.** A local church

may be disorganized by action and formal pronouncement of the Board of General Superintendents. Such action shall be taken only after (a) the district superintendent has consulted with the general superintendent in jurisdiction concerning the possibility of discontinuing a local church organization; and (b) on recommendation of the district superintendent and the District Advisory Board.

106.1. In case a local church becomes disorganized, any church property which may exist may in no way be diverted to other purposes, but title shall pass to the District Advisory Board acting as agent for said district where such has been incorporated, or other authorized agents, for the use of the Church of the Nazarene at large, as the District Assembly shall direct; and trustees holding property for the disorganized church shall sell or dispose of the same only on the order and under the direction of the District Advisory Board or other appointed agent of the District Assembly, with the written approval of the general superintendent in jurisdiction; either conveying said property or delivering the proceeds from the sale thereof as directed by the District Assembly or its District Advisory Board.

106.2. No trustee or trustees of a disorganized church may divert property from the use of the Church of the Nazarene. [148-52]

106.3. Only those churches officially disorganized may be dropped from the records of the General Secretary.

## B. Membership

107. *Full Membership.* All persons who have been organized into a local church by those authorized so to

do, and all who have been publicly received by the pastor, the district superintendent, or the general superintendent, after having declared their experience of salvation, and their belief in the doctrines of the Church of the Nazarene, and their willingness to submit to its government, shall compose the full membership of the local church; however, only church members who have reached their fifteenth birthday shall be entitled to vote in annual or special church meetings. [28, 34.4, 107, 110, 112.1, 115.2, 119, 310, 403.7, 404.6]

**107.1.** When persons desire to unite with the church, the pastor shall explain to them the privileges and responsibilities of membership in the church, the Articles of Faith, and the requirements of the General and Special Rules, and the purpose and mission of the Church of the Nazarene. Specific indoctrination and orientation shall be provided to qualify candidates for meaningful church membership.

After consulting with the evangelism and church membership committee, the minister shall receive acceptable candidates into the membership of the church in a public service, using the approved form for the reception of members (801). [26, 32-38, 109-9.4, 225]

**107.2.** Members of missions, where the organization of a local church has not been effected, shall not be counted as church members nor reported as church members; however, members of a mission may, when duly received according to 107 and 107.1, hold church membership in some regularly organized local church in which they shall be counted as church members. But the members of missions shall not be reported in the annual statistics as church members. [115.12]

108. *Probationary Membership.* Where a district makes provision (203.30), a local church may have probationers who shall have all the privileges of church members, with the exception of voting and holding church office. [203.30]

108.1. Probationers may be received into full membership or dropped at any time, at the discretion of the pastor and evangelism and church membership committee.

### C. Evangelism and Church Membership Committee

109. The church board shall provide an evangelism and church membership committee of not fewer than three persons acting in an advisory capacity to the pastor who shall be the chairman. Its duties shall be:

109.1. To promote evangelism in the local church and seek to conserve the fruits of evangelism. [101, 107-7.1, 136.23]

109.2. To study and recommend to the church board and departments ways to emphasize evangelism in the whole life of the church.

109.3. To serve as the local committee to implement the denominational programs, both general and district, of evangelism.

109.4. To urge new converts to qualify for church membership by a consistent devotional life, a study of the Bible and the *Manual*, individually and/or in a pastor's membership class, remembering that members received by profession of faith help to conserve the fruits of evangelism. [25-26, 34.4]

109.5. To endeavor to bring new members into total fellowship and service of the church.

109.6. To work with the pastor in developing a con-

training program of spiritual guidance for new members.

109.7. To recommend to the church board, upon nomination by the pastor, the evangelists for local campaigns. It is recommended that at least one campaign each year be conducted by a commissioned or registered evangelist.

109.8. No person shall be received into full membership of the local church until the pastor first consults with the evangelism and church membership committee concerning that person's reception. [107.1]

#### D. Change of Membership

110. *Transfer.* The pastor, when requested by a member, may grant a transfer of church membership [see form in 813.4] to any local church of the Church of the Nazarene that may be named, such transfer to be valid for three months only. When the reception of the transfer is acknowledged by the receiving local church, such person's membership in the former local church shall cease. [111, 813.5]

110.1. *Commendation.* The pastor, when requested by a member, may grant a certificate of commendation [see form in 813.2] to any evangelical church that may be named, after which such person's membership in the local church issuing the certificate shall cease immediately. [111]

#### E. Termination of Membership

111. *Change of Residence.* A member of a local church, when changing his place of residence, is required to report to his pastor at least once in six months. Should he fail to do so, his name may be

removed from the church roll by action of the church board. A 120-day waiting period of prayer and supplication shall follow the initial action, after which the pastor shall write opposite his name, "Removed without letter." [139]

111.1. *Persistent Absence.* When a member of a church has been absent from all religious services of the church for six successive months without a reason deemed justifiable by the church board, and he has been visited and dealt with faithfully, the member's name may be removed from the church roll by action of the church board. A 120-day waiting period of prayer and supplication shall follow the initial action. After such action of the church board, the pastor shall write opposite the member's name, "Removed by the church board." [139.1]

111.2. When a licensed or an ordained minister has united with the church membership or ministry of another denomination, his membership in the local church shall, because of that fact, immediately cease, and there shall be written opposite his name, "Removed by uniting with another denomination." [403.7, 404.6]

111.3. When a member of a local church has accepted license to preach or ordination from any other religious organizations, or is engaging in independent church or missionary work, his membership in the local church shall, because of that fact, immediately cease except in case that person shall secure the annual written approval of the local church board of the church in which he holds his membership and the annual written approval of the District Advisory Board of the district in which that church is located.

111.4. *Dismissal.* The pastor, when requested by a

member, may grant a letter of dismissal [see form in 813.3], thus terminating such person's membership immediately. [111]

111.5. A church board may not remove more than 10 percent of the membership of the local church in any one assembly year without the written approval of the District Advisory Board and the district superintendent. The names of those to be removed and the reason for their removal shall be presented in writing to the Advisory Board by the local church secretary.

### F. Church Meetings

112. A meeting of the members of a local church for conference and for the transaction of business shall be known as a church meeting. [104, 112.6, 117, 122, 130-33, 143]

112.1. Only those persons who have been received into full membership and have reached their fifteenth birthday shall be entitled to vote in church meetings. [107]

112.2. *Business Transactions.* Business, including elections, in harmony with the spirit and order of the church, and not otherwise specially provided for, may be transacted at any church meeting.

112.3. *Comply with Civil Law.* In all cases where the civil law requires a specific course of procedure in calling and conducting church meetings, that course should be strictly followed. [149]

112.4. *Presiding Officer.* The pastor, who shall be ex officio president of the local church, or the district superintendent, or the general superintendent having jurisdiction, or someone appointed by the district superintendent or the general superintendent, shall

preside at annual or special church meetings. [116, 210.1, 310.1]

112.5. *Secretary.* The secretary of the church board shall be the secretary of all church meetings; in his absence a secretary pro tempore shall be elected. [141.4]

112.6. *Annual Meeting.* An annual church meeting shall be held within 60 days prior to the meeting of the District Assembly, public notice of the same always being given from the pulpit at least two Sundays preceding.

In cases where the District Assembly will convene so that the 60-day period is during the vacation season, the local church may, upon recommendation of the local church board and with the written approval of the district superintendent, hold its annual meeting within 90 days prior to the meeting of the District Assembly.

112.7. *Reports.* Reports shall be given at the annual church meeting by the pastor [115.14], the chairman of the board of Christian life [165], the president of the Nazarene Youth International [171.3], the president of the Nazarene World Missionary Society [172.2], the deaconesses [415], the local preachers [402], the stewards [146], the trustees [151], the board of Christian life [156.5], the secretary [141.2], and the treasurer [142.5] of the church board.

112.8. *Elections.* At the annual church meeting there shall be an election, by ballot, of the stewards [143], the trustees [148, 149.1], the chairman of the board of Christian life [156.5], and the members of the board of Christian life [156], to serve for the next church year and until their successors are elected and qualified. [38]

112.9. Where laws permit, and in churches where such procedure is approved by a majority vote of the church members present at a duly called or annual meeting, a specific number of church members may be elected by ballot, primarily as members of the church board, it being understood that a designated proportion of these shall thereby be elected as trustees, and a further designated proportion as stewards in harmony with 143 and 144. The number to be elected shall be at least 6 and shall not exceed 22, the number to be decided by majority vote in the church meeting. When a church board is elected in this manner, the board shall organize itself into committees to carry out assigned responsibilities.

112.10. A nominating committee may be used, if desired, in the election process of officers, boards, and District Assembly delegates. This committee may be constituted by whatever method the church board shall propose. The pastor shall serve as chairman. [38]

112.11. At the annual church meeting, there shall be an election, by ballot, of lay delegates to the District Assembly, on the basis of representation fixed by the General Assembly according to 201-1.2.

112.12. Special church meetings may be called at any time by the pastor; or by the church board after having obtained the consent of the pastor, or of the district superintendent or of the general superintendent having jurisdiction. [104]

112.13. Public notice of special church meetings shall always be given from the pulpit in at least two preceding regular services, or in such manner as meets the requirements of civil law. [127, 130-31, 143, 145, 149.1-52]

## G. The Church Years

113. The administrative year shall begin on the Monday immediately following the final adjournment of the District Assembly of the assembly district in which the local church is situated, and shall close at twelve o'clock midnight on the Sunday immediately following the final adjournment of the District Assembly.

113.1. The statistical year shall close within 60 days prior to the opening of the District Assembly; and the new statistical year shall begin the day following its close. The exact date of the beginning and close of the statistical year within these bounds shall be set by the District Advisory Board. [222.1]

## H. The Pastor

114. A pastor is an elder or a licensed minister [122] who, under the call of God and His people, has the oversight of a local church. [38, 210]

115. The duties of a pastor are:

115.1. To preach the Word. [403.5, 404]

115.2. To receive persons as members of the local church according to 107 and 107.1.

115.3. To administer the sacraments in harmony with 403.6 and 404.

115.4. To care for the people by pastoral visitation, particularly of the sick and needy.

115.5. To comfort those who mourn.

115.6. To reprove, rebuke, and exhort, with all long-suffering and doctrine.

115.7. To seek, by all means, the conversion of sinners, the entire sanctification of the converted, and the upbuilding of God's people in the most holy faith. [24]

115.8. To have the care of all departments of local church work.

115.9. To appoint the teachers of the Sunday school in harmony with 162.3.

115.10. To administer the sacrament of the Lord's Supper at least once a quarter. A licensed minister who has not complied fully with provisions of 403.6 (see also 802), shall arrange for the administration of the sacrament by an elder. [33.5, 144.2]

115.11. To read to the congregation the Constitution of the Church of the Nazarene and the Special Rules contained in 1-26, 32-38, both inclusive, within each church year [113] or have this section of the *Manual* printed and distributed annually to the members of the church.

115.12. To supervise the preparation of all statistical reports from all departments of the local church, and present promptly all such reports through the district secretary to the District Assembly. [107.2, 113.1, 165]

115.13. To give leadership to the evangelism, education, devotion, and expansion programs of the local church in harmony with the district and general church promotional goals and programs.

115.14. To submit a report to the annual church meeting including a report on the status of the local church and its departments; and an outline of areas of future needs with recommendations for reference by the church to any of its officers or departments for study and/or implementation in future steps for growth and progress.

115.15. To appoint an investigating committee of three in case of accusation filed against a church member. [301]

115.16. To see that all General Budget funds raised through the local missionary society are remitted promptly to the General Treasurer; and that all District Budget funds are remitted promptly to the district treasurer. [142.2]

115.17. To nominate to the church board all persons who are paid employees of the local church, and to have supervision of the same.

115.18. To sign in conjunction with the church secretary all conveyances of real estate, mortgages, releases of mortgage, contracts, and other legal documents not otherwise provided for in the *Manual*. [102.1, 103-4.2]

115.19. To notify the pastor of the nearest church when a member or friend of a local church or any of its departments moves to another locality in the same assembly district where vital association with the previous local church is impractical, giving the member's or friend's address. If the move is to a locality beyond the assembly district, the pastor shall immediately inform the Moving Nazarene Services of the Department of Evangelism, giving the name and new address.

115.20. To arrange, together with the church board, according to plans adopted by the General Assembly and agreed to by the District Assembly, for the raising of the apportionment of the General Budget funds, and the apportionment of the District Budget funds, made to the local church; and to raise these apportionments. [37.2, 137, 173]

115.21. The pastor may, when requested by a member, grant a transfer of church membership [813.4], a certificate of commendation [813.2], or a letter of dismissal [110-10.1, 111.4, 813.3].

115.22. The pastor shall be, ex officio, president of the local church, chairman of the church board, and head of the church schools, the Nazarene Youth International, the Nazarene World Missionary Society, and all other subsidiary organizations in connection with the local church. [134, 162, 171.2, 172.1]

116. The pastor shall have the right to a voice in the nomination of all heads of all departments of the local church. [157.4-57.10]

117. The pastor shall not contract bills nor create financial obligations for the local church, unless authorized and directed by vote of the church board or by vote of a church meeting; such action shall be duly recorded in the minutes of the church board or of the church meeting. [136.1]

118. The pastor shall always show due regard for the united advice of the district superintendent and the District Advisory Board. [208, 222.2, 403.9, 404.8]

119. In case a licensed or ordained minister presenting credentials from another denomination shall, during the interim of sessions of the District Assembly, make application for membership in a local church, the pastor may not receive such applicant without first having obtained the favorable recommendation of the District Advisory Board. [107, 118, 225]

120. For the exercise of this office the pastor shall be amenable to the District Assembly, to which he shall report annually and give brief testimony to his personal Christian experience. [203.1, 403.6]

121. The pastor shall automatically become a member of the church of which he is pastor; or, in case of more than one church on his charge, of the church of his choice. [404.4]

## I. Calling of a Pastor

122. An elder or a licensed minister [114] may be called to the pastorate of a church by two-thirds favorable vote by ballot of the church members of voting age present and voting at a duly called annual or special meeting of the church, provided that such elder or licensed minister shall have been nominated to the church by the church board, which, after having advised with the district superintendent, made such nomination by a majority vote by ballot of all its members; and provided the nomination shall have been approved by the district superintendent. [30.9, 125, 130.2, 136.2, 205.7, 208.6]

123. The pastor of a church which has been organized for less than two years, or has less than 25 voting members, or is receiving regular assistance from the district, may be appointed by the district superintendent with the consent of the general superintendent having jurisdiction and the District Advisory Board. [208.1, 208.3]

123.1. In such a church a pastoral vacancy in the interim between District Assemblies shall be filled by appointment by the district superintendent.

124. In case of disagreement between the church board and the district superintendent, the church board or the district superintendent may submit the matter to the general superintendent having jurisdiction for his decision. From such decision either the church board or the district superintendent may appeal to the Board of General Superintendents.

125. When a pastor starts his ministry after the beginning of the church year [113], it shall be for a term including the next church year, and the call may be extended as hereinafter provided.

126. In case a church has not called a pastor prior to the convening of the District Assembly, the general superintendent presiding at the District Assembly, the district superintendent, and the District Advisory Board, in concurrence with the delegates from the church, shall make pastoral arrangements. [222.3, 308.1]

127. Acceptance of a call to pastoral relations shall be given by the minister not later than 30 days from the date of the church meeting voting the call.

128. When a pastor is called, the local church should specify the expected remuneration. The amount of this remuneration may be determined by the church board, or by vote of the church membership upon the recommendation of the church board. When agreement has been entered into between the church or the church board and the pastor, the payment of the pastor's salary in full shall be considered a moral obligation by the church. If, however, the church becomes unable to continue the payment of the salary agreed upon, such inability and failure shall not be considered a sufficient cause for civil action against the church by the pastor; and in no case shall the church be legally responsible in excess of funds raised during the term of the pastor's actual service, and not otherwise designated.

The local church should also make provision for his traveling and moving expenses. [37, 136.7-36.8]

-129. No pastor shall terminate the pastorate of a church without giving the church board and the district superintendent written resignation at least 30 days before the termination of his pastorate, and without having this resignation accepted by the church board and approved in writing by the district superintendent. When the resignation has been ac-

cepted, termination may be any time agreed upon within 30 days.

129.1. The pastor who resigns shall, in cooperation with the secretary of the church board, prepare a correct list of the church membership roll with current addresses. This roll must correspond numerically with the last published district minutes showing deletions and additions for the current year.

### **J. Renewing the Call of the Pastor**

130. The call of the pastor may be renewed for the second year and each succeeding year of his pastorate without nomination of the church board, by two-thirds vote by ballot of all church members of voting age present and voting at a church meeting duly called for this purpose and held at least 90 days but not more than 180 days prior to the date of convening the next District Assembly, provided such renewal call shall be approved by the district superintendent within 30 days after such call. His failure to disapprove shall be considered and treated as approval. [112.12, 208.7]

130.1. In case of disagreement regarding the disapproval of the renewal call by the district superintendent within the specified time, either the church or the district superintendent may submit the matter to the general superintendent having jurisdiction for a decision. From such decision either the local church or the district superintendent may appeal to the Board of General Superintendents.

130.2. A pastor receiving less than two-thirds but a majority vote on a renewal call shall be considered reelected for a period of one year, subject to the approval of the district superintendent; but cannot be

voted on again unless nominated by the church board as in regular procedure of calling a pastor.

131. *Extended Call.* A vote for an extended call may not be taken unless there is a favorable two-thirds vote of the church on a one-year call. [130] However, it is hereby provided that the local church, when voting to renew pastoral relations for the pastor who is an elder and has served at least 180 days prior to the vote on reelection, shall vote to extend the call to a total of two, three, or four years on condition that the pastoral vote for one year has been taken and a favorable vote received; and the extended call shall have been recommended by majority vote by ballot of members of the church board, with the consent of the pastor and approved in writing by the district superintendent. Such a vote must be by two-thirds majority by ballot of church members of voting age present and voting and must be taken at a church meeting duly called for that purpose at least 90 days but not more than 180 days prior to the date of convening the next District Assembly. [112.12]

131.1. It shall be understood that this extended call shall include the one-year renewal call period. In case of additional renewals of such pastorate, the procedure shall be the same as that stated herein; but each successive renewal shall not be for longer than four years.

132. In case the church meeting for the renewal call is held at a date later than 90 days prior to the convening of the next District Assembly, the procedure shall be that of calling a pastor according to 122.

133. In case the district superintendent and the church board shall be of the opinion that the question of the continuance of pastoral relations beyond the close of any year of an extended pastoral term should

be submitted to the church, the district superintendent and the church board by a two-thirds majority vote of all its members together may order the question submitted for vote at a special church meeting held at least 90 days, but not more than 180 days, prior to the date of convening the next District Assembly. The question shall be submitted in the following form: "Shall the present pastoral relations be continued beyond the end of the present church year?" [112.12]

If, by a two-thirds vote by ballot of the church members of voting age present and voting, the church decides to continue its present pastoral relations, the office of the pastor shall continue as though such vote had not been taken.

If, however, the church fails to decide by such vote to continue the present pastoral relations, the term of office of the pastor shall terminate with the close of the District Assembly.

### **K. The Church Board**

134. *Membership.* Every church shall have a church board, composed of the pastor, the chairman of the board of Christian life, the president of the Nazarene Youth International, the president of the local Nazarene World Missionary Society, the stewards, and the trustees of the church, and the members of the board of Christian life when elected as the education committee of the church board by the annual church meeting. [38, 112.8-12.10, 143, 148, 156, 171.3, 172.2]

135. *Meetings.* The church board shall have a regular meeting within the first (15) days of each calendar month, and shall meet specially when called by the pastor, the district superintendent, or the

secretary with the approval of the district superintendent when there is no pastor.

Between the annual church meeting and the District Assembly the newly elected church board may meet for organization purposes, at which time it shall elect a church secretary and a church treasurer as provided hereafter and any other officer which it shall be their duty to elect. [112.6, 136.17-36.18]

**136. Business.** The business of the church board shall be:

**136.1.** To care for the interests of the church and its work, not otherwise provided for, in harmony with the pastor. [117, 177]

**136.2.** To nominate to the church, after having consulted with the district superintendent, any elder or licensed minister whom it may deem the proper person to become pastor, provided the nomination be approved by the district superintendent. [122, 208.6]

**136.3.** To recommend to the church, with the approval of the district superintendent, that the call of the pastor be renewed for a term longer than one year. [131, 133]

**136.4.** To arrange for pastoral supply, after conference with the district superintendent, until such time as a pastor shall be regularly called by the church. [209]

**136.5.** To provide for the development and adoption of a church budget of projected income and expenditures.

**136.6.** To assign a committee of the board responsibilities for: (a) monitoring the church budget, (b) reporting to the board on the financial conditions and concerns of the church.

**136.7.** To determine the amount of salary the pastor shall receive, and to review it at least once a year. [123]

**136.8.** To provide ways and means for the support of the pastor, the pastoral supply, or any other paid workers of the church; to give attention to the continuing educational needs of the pastor and staff. [128, 144.1]

**136.9.** To determine the financial support and housing allowance an evangelist should receive and notify the person of such minimum support at the time of this call by the church board.

**136.10.** To give proper attention to the support of the district superintendent and the general superintendents, in accordance with the authorized plans.

**136.11.** To license as local preacher, at its discretion, any person who has been recommended by the pastor; and to renew such license, as provided in 402, 402.2.

**136.12.** To license as local deaconess, at its discretion, any person who has been recommended by the pastor; and to renew such license. [415, 415.3]

**136.13.** To recommend, at its discretion, upon nomination by the pastor, a local preacher to the District Assembly to be a licensed minister. [402.4, 203.2, 403]

**136.14.** To recommend, at its discretion, upon nomination by the pastor, a licensed minister to the District Assembly for renewal of license. [203.2, 403.2]

**136.15.** To recommend, at its discretion, upon nomination by the pastor, a local deaconess to the District Assembly to be a licensed deaconess. [415.4, 203.3, 416]

**136.16.** To recommend, at its discretion, upon nomination by the pastor, a licensed deaconess to the District Assembly for renewal of license. [415.4, 203.3, 416.3]

136.17. To approve the director of the vacation Bible school, and the director of the weekday Bible school. [157.13]

136.18. To elect a secretary at the first meeting of the new board, to serve until the close of the church year and until a successor has been elected and qualified. [112.5, 135, 141.1-41.5]

136.19. To elect a treasurer at the first meeting of the new board, to serve until the close of the church year and until a successor has been elected and qualified. [135, 142.1-42.6]

136.20. To cause careful account to be kept of all money received and disbursed by the church, and make report of the same at its regular monthly meetings, and to the annual meeting of the church. [142.3]

136.21. To provide a committee, no fewer than two members of which shall count and account for all money received by the church. [144.1]

136.22. To appoint an auditing committee which shall audit, at least annually, the financial records of the treasurer of the church, the Nazarene Youth International, the Sunday school, and any other financial records of the church.

136.23. To provide an evangelism and church membership committee of no fewer than three persons. [109]

136.24. To recommend, at its discretion, upon nomination by the pastor, a member to the District Assembly to be granted a license as a director of Christian education.

136.25. To recommend at its discretion, upon nomination of the pastor, a person to the District Assembly, to be a registered song evangelist.

136.26. To recommend a licensed deaconess to the District Assembly for election as a consecrated deaconess. [417]

136.27. To function, if advisable, as the board of Christian life in churches of no more than 50 members. [156.1]

136.28. To appoint a trial committee of five in case written charges are pending against a church member. [501]

136.29. To elect with the written approval of the district superintendent and upon the nomination of the pastor such paid assistants as assistant pastors, directors of Christian education, directors of youth work, or directors of music. The failure of the district superintendent to disapprove within 15 days shall be considered as approval. [181, 208.9]

136.30. To elect a local preacher or a licensed minister as an unpaid assistant pastor only if approval is given annually in writing by the district superintendent.

137. The church board, together with the pastor, shall follow plans adopted by the General Assembly and agreed to by the District Assembly for raising apportionments of General Budget funds and District Budget funds made to the local church, and shall raise these apportionments. [37.2-37.3, 115.20, 173]

138. The church board and pastor, before a board of Christian life has been provided in a newly organized church, shall appoint a chairman of Christian life, and shall perform the duties of a board of Christian life until such board has been regularly elected. [156]

139. The church board may remove the name of a nonresident church member from the church roll upon

the member's failure to report to the pastor at least once in six months. [111.1, 111.5]

139.1. The church board may remove from the church roll the name of a member who has been absent from all religious services of the church for six successive months without a reason deemed justifiable by the church board, provided that he has been visited and faithfully dealt with, when possible, and in accordance with 111.1. [111.5, 115.19]

140. The church board may suspend or revoke the license of a local deaconess in harmony with 415.3.

141. Church Secretary. The duties of the secretary of the church board shall be:

141.1. To record correctly and preserve faithfully the minutes of all church meetings and meetings of the church board, and do whatever else may pertain to the office. [129.1, 136.18]

141.2. To present to the annual meeting of the church an annual report of all the activities of the local church, including statistics on membership. [112.7]

141.3. To hold in trust all papers, records, and legal documents, including deeds, abstracts, insurance policies, pertaining to the local church and turn over promptly all papers, records, and other documents to his successor in office.

141.4. To be the secretary of all annual and special church meetings; and to be custodian of the minutes and other papers of such annual and special church meetings. [112.5]

141.5. To certify in writing to the district superintendent the results of the vote for the calling of a pastor, a pastoral renewal vote, and the vote for an extended pastoral renewal call. Such certification shall be made within one week of the vote.

141.6. To send to the district superintendent a copy of minutes of all church meetings and meetings of church board within three days of such meetings when that local church is without a pastor.

141.7. To sign in conjunction with the pastor all conveyances of real estate, mortgages, releases of mortgage, contracts, and other legal documents not otherwise provided for in the *Manual*. [102.1, 103-4.2]

142. *Church Treasurer*. The duties of the treasurer of the church board shall be:

142.1. To receive all moneys not otherwise provided for, and disburse the same only on order of the church board. [136.20]

142.2. To make monthly remittances of all district funds to the district treasurer, and of all general funds to the General Treasurer, except as otherwise provided. [115.16]

142.3. To keep a correct book record of all funds received and disbursed. [136.20]

142.4. To present a monthly financial report to the church board. [136.20]

142.5. To present an annual financial report to the annual church meeting. [112.7, 136.20]

142.6. To deliver to the church board the complete treasurer's records at such time as the treasurer shall cease to hold the office.

### L. The Stewards

143. The stewards of the church shall be no fewer than 3 nor more than 13 in number. They shall be elected by ballot, at the annual or a special church meeting, from among the members of the church, to serve for the next church year and until their succes-

sors have been elected and qualified. [38, 112.6, 112.8, 134]

144. The duties of the stewards are:

144.1 To give special attention, under the direction of the church board, to raising money for the support of the church and of the pastor, that he may be free from secular care and anxiety and may give himself wholly to the work of the ministry. [136.8]

144.2. To provide the elements for the Lord's Supper, and when requested by the pastor, to assist in the distribution of the same. [33.5, 115.10]

144.3. To provide assistance and support for the needy and distressed. A biblical role of lay leaders is that of ministering in areas of practical service (Acts 6:1-3; Romans 12:6-8). Therefore stewards should offer their time and spiritual gifts in acts of service, administration, encouragement, mercy, visitation, and other ministries.

144.4. To assist the pastor in organizing the church so that Christian service opportunities are available to all members.

144.5. To serve as liaison to community Christian action and service organizations.

145. For faithfulness in the discharge of their duties the stewards shall be amenable to the local church. They shall make a report to the church at the annual church meeting. [112.7]

146. A vacancy in the office of steward may be filled by the local church at a duly called church meeting. [112.12]

### **M. The Local Stewardship Committee**

147. The stewards shall constitute the stewardship committee, whose duty it shall be to promote the

cause of Christian stewardship in the local church in cooperation with the pastor and the General Department of Stewardship. [37-37.4, 363-63.10]

## **N. The Trustees**

**148.** The trustees of the church shall be no fewer than three nor more than nine in number. They shall be elected from among the members of the local church to serve for the next church year and until their successors have been elected and qualified. [38, 112.8, 134]

**149.** In all cases where the civil law requires a specific mode of election of church trustees, that mode shall be strictly followed. [112.3]

**149.1.** Where no particular mode of election is required by civil law, the trustees shall be elected by ballot at the annual meeting of the local church or at a special meeting duly called for that purpose. [112.6, 112.8]

**150.** The duties of the trustees shall be:

**150.1.** To hold the title to church property and manage it as trustees of the local church, where the local church is not incorporated, or where the civil law requires it, or where for other reasons it is deemed best by the district superintendent or the District Advisory Board, subject to the guidance and the restrictions as set forth in 102-4.3.

**150.2.** To serve as a long-range planning committee with the pastor as chairman *ex officio*.

**150.3.** To give guidance to the development of the physical facilities and to financial planning, unless the church board has provided otherwise.

**151.** For faithfulness to their trust, the trustees shall be amenable to the local church. They shall

report to the annual church meeting. In the interim of annual church meetings, they shall make reports to the church board of which they are a part. [102, 104.2, 106.1-6.2, 112.7]

152. A vacancy in the office of trustee may be filled by the local church at a duly called church meeting. [112.12]

### **O. Division of Christian Life (Church Schools/Youth)**

154. Christian life (church schools/youth) is that division of the local church which plans, promotes, and directs the Christian education work of the local church, namely, the Sunday school; summer ministries, including the vacation Bible school; the weekday schools; Caravans; children's church; the Christian Service Training schools; youth ministries in conjunction with NYI; adult ministries including Home Department; and such other schools and classes as may be classified under this heading. The division of Christian life (church schools/youth) shall be supervised by the board of Christian life under the direct care of the pastor.

155. The objectives of the division of Christian life (church schools/youth) are:

155.1. To teach the doctrines of Christianity and the standards of Christian behavior as revealed in the Bible, especially as interpreted by the "Articles of Faith" in the *Manual of the Church of the Nazarene*.

155.2. To lay the foundation and begin the development of Christian character in young children.

155.3. To seek the salvation of the unsaved and the entire sanctification of believers.

155.4. To foster a progressive and continuous

development of Christlike character, attitudes, and habits.

155.5. To lead to the discovery of a Christian philosophy of life, and the biblical interpretation of the universe.

155.6. To help the home become more effective in teaching the Christian faith.

155.7. To influence strongly in favor of church membership and to train for service in the same.

155.8. To reach the largest possible number of people for Christ and the church.

These objectives are to be accomplished through devout and diligent study and teaching of the Word of God—the Bible—and through any other contributive agencies.

## **P. The Board of Christian Life**

156. Every local church shall have a board of Christian life composed of the chairman, [156.5, 157.4] and three to nine persons elected at the annual church meeting. The pastor, NWMS president, and the NYI president, the director of outreach, and the directors of children's, youth, and adult ministries shall be ex officio members of the board of Christian life. All members shall serve until the close of the next year and until their successors are elected and qualified. The board shall be responsible for the Sunday school and other children's, youth, and adult ministries.

156.1. In local churches of 50 members or less the church board may function as the board of Christian life. [138]

156.2. A vacancy on the board of Christian life may be filled at a duly called church meeting.

156.3. If desired, the elected members of the board

of Christian life may be designated at the annual church meeting as an integral part of the church board, thus functioning as an educational committee of the church board.

156.4. If an educational committee is thus elected, the church may elect fewer stewards and trustees (though never less than the minimum established by the *Manual*, 143 and 148) or elect a larger church board than otherwise. [112.8, 136.27, 138]

156.5. The chairman of the board of Christian life shall be a member of the local church whose church school he serves, and shall be in the experience of entire sanctification, and in full sympathy with the doctrine and polity of the Church of the Nazarene. He shall be a member *ex officio* of the board of Christian life, the church board, and the District Assembly held immediately prior to his year of office. He shall submit an annual report to the annual church meeting, and a quarterly report to the church board. [38, 112.7, 134, 239, 339]

156.6. The board of Christian life shall elect a secretary and such other officers as may be necessary. It shall hold regular monthly meetings for the transaction of any business pertaining to its area of responsibility. Special meetings may be called by the pastor. The board of Christian life shall give a report to the annual church meeting.

157. The duties of the board of Christian life shall be:

157.1. To organize or cause to be organized a Sunday school in the local church and where possible, outreach classes or schools, and have general supervision of the same.

157.2. To plan the Christian education program for

the local church, including decisions regarding curriculum materials to be used. Nazarene materials should form the basis for biblical and doctrinal interpretation.

157.3. To make surveys and studies of Christian education needs of the community, and lay plans to meet those needs as fully as possible.

157.4. To submit one or more nominations approved by the pastor to the annual church meeting for chairman of the board of Christian life who shall be elected by ballot by said annual church meeting. The chairman shall be an ex officio member of the church board (the chairman not being present when the nominees are selected). The chairman may be reelected by a "yes" and "no" vote when such election is ordered by the board of Christian life and approved by the pastor. A vacancy in the office of chairman of the board of Christian life shall be filled by the local church at a duly called church meeting.

157.5. To nominate to the church board with the approval of the pastor a director of children's ministries, a director of youth ministries who may be the NYI president, and a director of adult ministries. These persons will serve also as superintendents of the children's, youth, and adult divisions of the Sunday school. The church board shall determine whether or not the NYI president should serve as director of youth ministries. [38]

157.6. To elect a Cradle Roll supervisor and department visitors upon nomination by the pastor and the director of children's ministries.

157.7. To elect upon nomination by the pastor and chairman of the board of Christian life a director of senior adult ministries, who also may be responsible

for Home Department work; or to elect a Home Department supervisor and visitors upon nomination by the pastor and the chairman of the board of Christian life.

157.8. To elect a local director of children's church upon nomination by the pastor and the chairman of the board of Christian life.

157.9. To elect or appoint other Sunday school officers and workers as may be necessary upon nomination by the superintendent of the respective division with the approval of the pastor.

157.10. To approve nominees for Sunday school teachers before their appointment by the pastor or to remove an officer or teacher. [162.3]

157.11. To elect a record secretary for classes and/or department upon nomination of the division superintendent after consultation with teachers and supervisors.

157.12. To organize and promote where practicable, with the approval of the pastor, a vacation Bible school, a weekday school, and Christian Service Training classes; to select workers for them and have general supervision of the same.

157.13. To elect a director of the vacation Bible school or the weekday Bible school, upon nomination of the director of children's ministries and with approval of the pastor and the church board. [136.17]

157.14. To elect officers and workers to carry out other age-group ministries upon nomination by the director and with approval of the pastor.

157.15. To elect a local director of Christian Service Training, who shall promote the cause of Christian training, arrange training classes for the entire membership of the church, and have general supervi-

sion over the same; and to elect a dean or superintendent of the Christian Service Training school or special school, when such school is organized. [169-69.1]

157.16. To elect a local director of Christian family life from nominations by the director of adult ministries and with approval of the pastor.

157.17. To elect a local director of Caravans from nominations by the director of children's ministries with approval of the pastor.

157.18. To organize Caravans when practicable in the local church. These groups shall be under the general supervision of the board of Christian life, the care of the director of children's ministries, and the immediate leadership of the local Caravan director. The guides for the Caravan shall be elected by the board of Christian life upon nomination of the local Caravan director and the director of children's ministries with the approval of the pastor.

158. *Director of Children's Ministries.* The duties of the local director of children's ministries shall be:

158.1. To plan, administer, supervise, and coordinate an active ministry by and for children from birth through 11 years.

158.2. To serve as superintendent of the children's division of the Sunday school.

158.3. To be responsible for other Sunday and weekday educational, worship, evangelistic, and social programs for children.

158.4. To recommend to the board of Christian life the curriculum and other resources to be used.

158.5. To nominate to the board of Christian life the leadership for the various children's ministries.

158.6. To provide leadership training for children's

workers in cooperation with the director of Christian Service Training.

**159. Director of Youth Ministries.** The duties of the local director of youth ministries will be:

**159.1.** To plan, administer, supervise, and coordinate an active ministry by and for youth 12 through 23 years of age.

**159.2.** To serve as the superintendent of the Sunday school for youth.

**159.3.** To be responsible for other Sunday and weekday educational, worship, social, and evangelistic programs for youth.

**159.4.** To recommend to the board of Christian life curriculum and other resources to be used.

**159.5.** To nominate in consultation with the pastor and the chairman of the board of Christian life youth program staff to the board of Christian life who shall elect the same.

**159.6.** To provide leadership training for youth workers in cooperation with the director of Christian Service Training.

**159.7.** To sustain an active relationship to the local youth organization, NYI, and serve as an ex officio member of the local NYI council.

**160. Director of Adult Ministries.** The duties of the local director of adult ministries shall be:

**160.1.** To plan, administer, supervise, and coordinate an active ministry by and for adults from marriage or 24 years of age to death.

**160.2.** To serve as superintendent of the adult division of the Sunday school.

**160.3.** To be responsible for other Sunday and weekday educational, worship, evangelistic, service, and social programs by and for adults.

160.4. To recommend to the board of Christian life for approval the curriculum and other resource materials to be used.

160.5. To nominate to the board of Christian life the leadership for various adult ministries including Sunday school teachers and officers.

160.6. To provide leadership training for workers with adults in cooperation with the director of Christian Service Training.

161. Graded children's churches may be organized when practical in the local church. The churches (nursery, kindergarten, primary, middler, and junior) shall be under the general supervision of the board of Christian life or the education committee, the care of the pastor, and the immediate leadership of the local children's church director.

161.1. Children's church members shall be those children who attend a children's worship service planned on their level of understanding. These services are usually held on Sunday morning during the regular worship service.

### **Q. The Sunday School**

162. The Sunday school shall be under the general supervision of the board of Christian life, the care of the pastor, and the immediate leadership of three age-division directors who in the Sunday school function as superintendents—children, youth, and adult. [157.5]

162.1. *Bylaws.* Each Sunday school shall be organized and administered under the bylaws in 812.

162.2. The children, youth, and adult division superintendents [38] shall be members of the local church whose school they serve, and in full sympathy

with the doctrines and polity of the Church of the Nazarene. They shall submit a monthly report through the cabinet to the chairman of the board of Christian life. [157.5]

162.3. The officers and teachers of the Sunday school shall be professing Christians, exemplary in life, and in full harmony with the doctrines and polity of the Church of the Nazarene [157.9]

163. The director of outreach [38] shall be elected by the church board from one or more nominations made by the board of Christian life with the approval of the pastor. The director of outreach shall be a member of the local church he serves, exemplary in life, and in full harmony with the doctrine and polity of the Church of the Nazarene. He shall be an ex officio member of the board of Christian life and shall make a monthly report to the same.

164. The Sunday school year shall be the same as the church year as defined in 113.

165. At the close of the statistical year it shall be the duty of the pastor to supervise carefully the making of the annual statistical report of the Sunday school and forward it to the district secretary. [113.1, 115.12]

## R. Other Christian Life Schools

169. A vacation Bible school, weekday schools, a Christian Service Training school, or special classes or schools may be organized when practicable in the local church. These schools or classes shall be under the general supervision of the board of Christian life, the care of the pastor, and the immediate leadership of a director or dean.

169.1. The director of a vacation Bible school or

weekday schools shall be elected by the board of Christian life upon nomination of the director of children's ministries. The dean of a Christian Service Training school or a special school shall be elected by the board of Christian life upon nomination by the director of Christian Service Training and adult ministries. Such officers shall be approved by the pastor.

169.2. The other officers and the teachers of a vacation Bible school, weekday schools, a Christian Service Training school, or a special school shall be elected by the board of Christian life upon nomination of the director or dean of the school, with the approval of the pastor.

## **S. The Local Nazarene Youth International**

171. Youth in the local church may be organized into units of the Nazarene Youth International for the spiritual benefit of young people, cooperation in bringing youth to Christ, and equipping them for the advancement of the work of the church.

171.1. The local units of the Nazarene Youth International may be organized into divisions as needed and shall be in harmony with the constitution for the local society as approved by the General Assembly. [810.1]

171.2. The local Nazarene Youth International shall be amenable to the local church and pastor.

171.3. The president of the local Nazarene Youth International shall be nominated by the nominating committee, consisting of not less than three nor more than seven members of NYI, including the pastor, and appointed by the pastor. This committee shall submit at least two names for the office of president,

providing, however, that a president may be reelected by a yes-or-no vote when such election is recommended by the nominating committee and approved by the pastor. The president shall be elected by a majority vote of the members present and voting by ballot. His election shall be subject to the approval of the church board. He shall be a member, *ex officio*, of the church board to which he shall make a monthly report. He shall submit a report to the annual meeting of the local church. [112.7, 113, 134]

171.4. Each local organization of Nazarene Youth International shall be represented in the District Assembly by its newly elected president of which District Assembly he shall be a member. He shall report the condition of the society to the District Assembly. [201]

### **T. The Local Nazarene World Missionary Society**

172. Upon the authorization of the church board, local organizations of the Nazarene World Missionary Society may be formed within any age-group in harmony with the constitution of such local societies approved by the Department of World Mission. [811.1]

172.1. The local Nazarene World Missionary Society shall be a constituent part of the local church and subject to the supervision and direction of the pastor and the church board. [116]

172.2. The president of the local society shall be nominated by a committee of three to seven active members of the Nazarene World Missionary Society appointed by the pastor, who shall serve as chairman. This committee shall submit one or more names for the office of president. The president shall be elected by a majority vote by ballot of the active members

present and voting, and this election shall be subject to the approval of the church board. The president shall be a member of the local church whose society is served, a member ex officio of the church board, and a member of the District Assembly held immediately prior to his year of office. The president shall present a report to the annual meeting of the local church. [112.7, 113, 134, 201] ]

173. All funds raised by the local society for general interests of the Church of the Nazarene shall be applied to the General Budget apportionment of the local church with the exception of offerings for Alabaster, World Mission Radio, Memorial Roll, Distinguished Service Award, and Medical Plan and Retirement and Christmas Gift Fund.

173.1. The Medical Plan and Retirement Fund is to be held in trust by the General Treasurer for the General Council of the Nazarene World Missionary Society to be used for medical aid for active missionaries, pensions and medical aid for retired missionaries, such aid to be granted by the Department of World Mission according to the established policy. Funds shall be raised by placing of names on the Memorial Roll, the Distinguished Service Award, and/or offerings.

173.2. After primary consideration has been given to the full payment of the General Budget, opportunities may be given to make offerings for the support of world missionary work; such contributions to be known as "specials."

174. Funds for the support of general interests shall be raised in the following manners:

174.1. From gifts and offerings designed for the General Budget and general interests.

174.2. From special offerings such as Easter and Thanksgiving.

174.3. No part of the above funds shall be used for local or district expense or charitable purposes.

### **U. Prohibition of Financial Appeals**

177. It shall not be lawful for a local church, its officers or members, to send appeals to other local churches, their officers and members, to solicit money or financial assistance for their local church needs or for the interests that they may support.

It is provided, however, that such solicitation may be made to local churches and church members located within the bounds of the assembly district in which the solicitor is located, but on condition only that the solicitation be approved in writing by the district superintendent and the District Advisory Board.

178. Members of the Church of the Nazarene who are not authorized by the General Board or one of its departments shall not solicit funds for missionary or kindred activities apart from the General Budget, from congregations of local churches, or from members of such churches.

### **V. Use of the Church Name**

179. The name of the Church of the Nazarene, any local church, or any corporation or institution which is a part or in any manner affiliated with the Church of the Nazarene, or any part of any such name, shall not be used by any members of the Church of the Nazarene nor any one or more members thereof, or by any corporation, partnership, association, group, or other entity in connection with any activity, whether

of a commercial, social, educational, charitable, or other nature, without the prior written approval of the General Board of the Church of the Nazarene and the Board of General Superintendents, provided, however, that this provision shall not apply to such activities of the Church of the Nazarene as are authorized by its official *Manual*.

### **W. Church-sponsored Corporation**

180. No local church, local church board, district corporation, district board, nor any two or more members of any of them (acting individually or otherwise) shall directly or indirectly form or become members of any corporation, association, partnership, group, or other entity which promotes, sponsors, encourages, or in any manner engages in any activity (whether of a commercial, social, educational, charitable, or other nature) in which members of the Church of the Nazarene are solicited or in any manner sought as prospective participants, customers, tenants, clients, members, or associates, or in any activity (whether of a commercial, social, educational, charitable, or other nature) which directly or indirectly purports to be sponsored or operated primarily or exclusively by or for the benefit or service of members of the Church of the Nazarene, without the express prior written consent of the district superintendent and the District Advisory Board.

### **X. Paid Assistants in the Local Church**

181. There may be those who feel called to prepare themselves for certain vital lay services in the church, either part time or full time. The church recognizes

the place of such lay workers, and yet it is basically constituted a voluntary institution, with service to God and others the duty and privilege of all its members according to their abilities. When paid assistance in the local church, whether ministerial or lay, becomes necessary for greater efficiency, it must be such as will not devitalize the spirit of free service by all its members or tax the church's financial resources. [136.29]

181.1. Such local assistants as assistant pastors, directors of Christian education, directors of youth work, or directors of music, shall be nominated by the pastor, after having secured the written approval of the district superintendent, who shall respond within 15 days after receipt of the request, and elected by the church board. [208.9]

181.2. The employment of such assistants shall be for no more than one year and may be renewed upon recommendation of the pastor with the written approval of the district superintendent, and the favorable vote of the church board. The dismissal of such assistants prior to the end of the employment term must be by recommendation of the pastor, approval of the district superintendent, and the majority vote of the church board. [136.29]

181.3. The duties and services of such assistants are to be determined and supervised by the pastor. [115.17]

181.4. Such assistants are ineligible for election to the church board.

181.5. Within 30 days after a new pastor assumes his pastoral duties, the paid assistant's term of service shall be considered concluded. However, the paid assistant's reemployment may be considered, provided

such has received the written approval of the district superintendent, the nomination of the new pastor, and the approval of the church board. [208.9]

## CHAPTER II

## THE DISTRICT ASSEMBLY

## A. Bounds and Name

200. The General Assembly shall organize the membership of the church into District Assemblies.

The bounds and name of a church assembly district shall be such as shall be declared by the General Assembly, or by the assembly district involved, with the final approval of the general superintendent or superintendents having jurisdiction. [29]

## B. Membership and Time of Meeting

201. *Membership.* The District Assembly shall be composed of all elders [404.5, 405.3]; all the licensed ministers [403.6]; the district secretary [216]; the district treasurer [219]; any lay presidents of Nazarene institutions of higher education, whose local church membership is on the district; the chairman of the District Board of Christian Life [238.6]; the president of the District Nazarene Youth International [242.2]; the president of the District Nazarene World Missionary Society [243.2]; the newly elected chairman or vice-chairman of each local board of Christian life [158.5]; the newly elected president or vice-president of each local Nazarene Youth International [171.4]; the newly elected president or vice-president of each local Nazarene World Missionary Society [172.2]; provided, however, the newly elected vice-president of the Nazarene Youth International or the Nazarene World Missionary Society, the newly elected vice-chairman of the board of Christian life or an ap-

propriately elected alternate may represent these organizations in the District Assembly; the eligible deaconesses [416.5, 417.3]; the eligible lay missionaries [368.1]; the eligible ministers of Christian education [411.8]; the lay members of the District Advisory Board [221.3]; and the lay delegates from each local church in the assembly district. [29, 112.11, 201.1]

**201.1.** Local churches in districts of fewer than 5,000 church members shall be entitled to representation in the District Assembly as follows: two lay delegates from each local church of 50 or fewer church members, and one additional lay delegate for each successive 50 church members and the final major part of 50 church members. [29, 112.11, 201]

**201.2.** Local churches in districts of 5,000 or more church members shall be entitled to representation in the District Assembly as follows: one lay delegate from each local church of 50 or fewer church members, and one additional lay delegate for each successive 50 church members and the final major part of 50 church members. [29, 112.11, 201]

**202. Time.** The District Assembly shall be held annually, at the time appointed by the general superintendent having jurisdiction, and in the place designated by the preceding District Assembly or arranged for by the district superintendent.

**202.1. Nominating Committee.** Prior to the convening of the District Assembly, the general superintendent having jurisdiction may appoint a nominating committee to serve during the District Assembly; this committee may prepare nominations for the usual committees and offices in advance of the convening of the District Assembly. [309.2]

### C. Business of the District Assembly

203. The business of the District Assembly shall be:

203.1. To hear reports from and consider the character of all pastors, commissioned and/or registered evangelists, and other elders and licensed ministers, all deaconesses, commissioned ministers of Christian education, licensed directors of Christian education, commissioned ministers of music, and commissioned and/or registered song evangelists; however, by vote of the District Assembly the record of written reports received by the secretary may be accepted in lieu of oral reports of ministers not engaged in active service. [120, 177, 403.6, 405.3, 410.6, 411.8, 412, 413.3, 414.1, 416.5, 417.3]

203.2. To license as licensed ministers, after careful examination, persons who have been recommended by church boards or the District Advisory Board and who may be judged to be called to the ministry and to renew such license upon favorable recommendation of the Board of Orders and Relations. [136.13-36.14, 402.4, 403, 403.2]

203.3. To license as licensed deaconesses, after careful examination, persons who have been recommended by church boards and who may be judged to be called to the office of deaconess and to renew such license, upon favorable recommendation of the Board of Orders and Relations. [136.15-36.16, 415.4, 416, 416.3]

203.4. To elect to the eldership persons who may be judged to have fulfilled all the requirements for elder's orders upon favorable recommendation of the Board of Orders and Relations. [404.1]

203.5. To recognize the orders of persons coming

from other denominations who may be judged qualified and desirable for placement in the Church of the Nazarene upon favorable recommendation of the Board of Orders and Relations. [403.1, 405]

203.6. To receive, by transfer from other districts, elders, licensed ministers, ministers of Christian education, and deaconesses who have been properly recommended and who may be judged as desirable for membership in the District Assembly upon favorable recommendation of the Board of Orders and Relations. [406-6.2, 411-11.9, 418-18.3]

203.7. To issue a transfer of elders, licensed ministers, ministers of Christian education, and deaconesses who desire to transfer to another district upon favorable recommendation of the Board of Orders and Relations. [406, 406.1, 418, 418.1]

203.8. To commission elders who devote the major part of their time to evangelism to serve as evangelists for one year upon favorable recommendation of the Board of Orders and Relations. [410]

203.9. To register licensed ministers who devote full or part time to evangelism and elders who devote a portion of their time to evangelism as registered evangelists upon favorable recommendation of the Board of Orders and Relations. [410.3]

203.10. To commission or register persons whom it deems qualified to serve as song evangelists for one year upon the favorable recommendation of the Board of Orders and Relations. [412]

203.11. To commission persons whom it deems qualified to serve as ministers of music for one year upon favorable recommendation of the Board of Orders and Relations.

203.12. To commission persons whom it deems

qualified to serve as ministers of Christian education and to license as directors of Christian education [411.2] for one year; each upon favorable recommendation of the Board of Orders and Relations. [411]

203.13. To elect, by two-thirds favorable vote, by ballot, an elder to the office of district superintendent, to serve until the final adjournment of the next District Assembly and until a successor is elected and qualified; however, the procedure for reelection of a district superintendent shall be by a "yes" or "no" ballot vote. No superintendent shall serve beyond the District Assembly following his seventieth birthday.

203.14. After a district superintendent has served a district for at least 180 days, the District Assembly may reelect him for a period of two, three, or four years on a Regular or Mission Assembly District on condition that he has first been reelected for one year, and that such an extended election shall have been recommended by majority vote by ballot of a committee composed of the District Advisory Board, chairman of the District Board of Christian Life, president of the District NWMS, and president of the District NYI, with the approval of the general superintendent in jurisdiction. The procedure for election to an extended term of office shall be by a two-thirds favorable "yes" or "no" ballot.

In the case of additional elections to an extended term of office, the procedure shall be the same as stated herein; but each successive election shall not be for longer than four years for Regular and Mission Assembly Districts.

203.15. In case the general superintendent and the officers of the district, namely, the District Advisory Board, chairman of the District Board of Christian

Life, president of the District NWMS, and president of the District NYI, shall be of the opinion that the services of the district superintendent should not continue beyond the current year of an extended term, the general superintendent having jurisdiction and the district officers may order the question submitted for a vote of the District Assembly. The question shall be submitted in the following form: "Shall the present district superintendent be continued in office beyond this District Assembly?"

If the District Assembly, by a two-thirds vote by ballot, decides to continue the district superintendent in office, he shall continue to serve as though such vote had not been taken.

If, however, the District Assembly fails to decide by such vote to continue the district superintendent in office, his term of office shall terminate with the close of that District Assembly. [206]

**203.16.** To elect a district secretary, to serve until the final adjournment of the next District Assembly and until his successor is elected and qualified. [216]

**203.17.** To elect a district treasurer, to serve until the final adjournment of the next District Assembly and until his successor is elected and qualified. [219]

**203.18.** To elect, by ballot, two elders and two laymen to the District Advisory Board, to serve until the final adjournment of the next District Assembly and until their successors are elected and qualified.

When the district exceeds a total membership of 5,000, it may elect one additional elder and one additional layman for each successive 2,500 members and the final major part of 2,500 members.

**203.19.** To elect a District Board of Orders and Relations of not less than 5 nor more than 15 elders,

one of whom shall be the district superintendent, to serve for four years and until their successors are elected and qualified. This board shall meet prior to the District Assembly to consider all matters subject to its authority and, insofar as is possible, to complete its work prior to the District Assembly. [228-28, 230.1]

**203.20.** To elect a District Board of Ministerial Studies of five or more elders, to serve for four years and until their successors are elected and qualified. [229]

**203.21.** To elect, at its discretion, a District Board of Church Properties of equal lay and ministerial representation of no fewer than 6 nor more than 12 members, not including the district superintendent, who shall be a member *ex officio*, to serve until the final adjournment of the next District Assembly and until their successors are elected and qualified. The District Advisory Board may serve as the District Board of Church Properties in Home Mission Districts and upon favorable vote of the District Assembly. [204]

**203.22.** To elect, at its discretion, a District Board of Ministerial Benevolence, of as many members as the District Assembly may choose, to serve until the final adjournment of the next District Assembly and until their successors are elected and qualified. [204, 236]

**203.23.** To elect, at its discretion, either or both of the following: (1) a District Board of Evangelism of no less than five members including the district superintendent, (2) a district director of evangelism, both to serve until the final adjournment of the next District Assembly and until their successors are

elected and qualified. [204]

203.24. To elect a District Board of Christian Life in harmony with the procedure stated in 238, to serve until their successors are elected and qualified. [204, 212]

203.25. To elect a District Board of Home Missions, of equal lay and ministerial membership, of no fewer than 6 nor more than 18, not including the district superintendent, who shall be a member *ex officio*, to serve until the next District Assembly and until their successors are elected and qualified; however, the District Assembly may order that the District Advisory Board may constitute the District Board of Home Missions. [233]

203.26. To elect a standing Ways and Means Committee of equal lay and ministerial representation to serve until the final adjournment of the next District Assembly and until their successors are elected and qualified. The district superintendent and district treasurer shall be members *ex officio*.

203.27. To elect a District Court of Appeals, consisting of five elders, including the district superintendent, to serve until the final adjournment of the next District Assembly and until their successors are elected and qualified. [309.1, 506]

203.28. To elect annually, at its discretion, a district colporteur, upon the recommendation of the Department of Publication of the General Board. [237]

203.29. To elect, by ballot, at a session within 16 months of the meeting of the General Assembly, all of the lay delegates and all but one of the ministerial delegates, since one shall be the district superintendent. Every Regular and Mission District Assembly

shall be entitled to representation at the General Assembly by an equal number of ministerial and lay delegates. The district superintendent at the time of the General Assembly shall be one of the ministerial delegates, and the remaining ministerial delegates shall be elders. In case the district superintendent is unable to attend, or in case there has been a vacancy and the new district superintendent has not been appointed, the properly elected alternate shall be seated in the district superintendent's place. The nominating committee shall submit ballots containing at least three times the number of delegates eligible from that district, in each category, ministerial and lay. From these nominees, the allowed delegates and alternates in equal numbers shall be elected. Delegates elected are expected to attend faithfully all meetings of the General Assembly from opening to closing unless providentially prevented. [30-30.3, 301.1, 303, 329]

**203.30.** To establish, at its discretion, a system of probationary membership for its local churches, but probationers must not be counted as full members for purposes of representation.

**203.31.** To provide for the auditing of all district treasurers' books annually, either by an elected District Auditing Committee or by an auditing firm or certified public accountant.

**203.32.** To present to the General Assembly, through the district secretary, a full official journal for the preceding quadrennium, bound in permanent binding. [205.4, 217.7]

**203.33.** To grant a retired relation to any minister in good standing requesting it, provided he has reached the age of 65 years. [407.1]

203.34. To place in the retired relation, at its discretion, any minister in good standing who is disqualified for active ministerial labors because of physical disability or old age. [407.2]

203.35. To consider and care for the entire work of the Church of the Nazarene within the bounds of the assembly district.

203.36. To transact any other business pertaining to the work, not otherwise provided for, in harmony with the spirit and order of the Church of the Nazarene. [241.6]

203.37. The District Assembly may authorize, where civil law permits, the District Advisory Board to incorporate. After incorporation as above provided, the District Advisory Board shall have power, on its own resolution, to purchase, own, sell, exchange, mortgage, deed in trust, hypothecate, lease, and convey any property, real and personal, as may be necessary or convenient for the purpose of the corporation. [203.18, 222.7]

204. As far as possible membership of district boards and committees shall be equal between ministers and laymen unless specifically provided otherwise by the *Manual*.

#### **D. The District Assembly Journal**

205. The journal shall be the record of the regular proceedings of the District Assembly.

205.1. The journal shall be signed by the presiding officer and the district secretary.

205.2. The journal must be either written or typewritten manuscript, or printed, and substantially bound.

205.3. Separate items of business shall be placed in separate paragraphs.

205.4. The journal should be edited carefully with the view to its examination by the General Assembly. [203.32, 217.5, 217.7]

205.5. The full official journal for each quadrennium shall be bound in permanent binding, one copy being preserved in the District Assembly files and one copy in the General Assembly files. [217.7]

205.6. The journal shall be arranged as far as possible according to the table of contents prepared by the General Secretary in consultation with the Board of General Superintendents. The table of contents shall be furnished to the district secretary prior to the convening of the District Assembly.

205.7. The journal should contain not only the assignment of pastors to local churches, but also all regular and special engagements entered into by ministerial and lay members of the District Assembly who are engaged in any line of denominational service that would entitle them to consideration if applying for assistance from the Department of Pensions and Benevolence of the General Board. [122, 222.6, 355.2, 410.6]

### E. The District Superintendent

206. The district superintendent, elected by the District Assembly, or appointed by the general superintendent in jurisdiction, shall serve until the final adjournment of the next District Assembly and until his successor is elected or appointed and qualified. In case of an extended call, the procedure provided in 203.13-3.14 shall determine his tenure of office.

207. If for any cause a vacancy shall occur in the interim of sessions of the District Assembly, the general

superintendents, jointly and severally, may fill the vacancy. [309]

208. The duties of a district superintendent shall be:

208.1. To organize, recognize, and supervise local churches within the bounds of his assembly district, subject to the approval of the general superintendent having jurisdiction. [100, 310, 404.9]

208.2. To visit the local churches in his assembly district at least once a year, insofar as is possible, and as necessary meet with the church board to consult with reference to spiritual, financial, and pastoral matters, giving such helpful advice and assistance as he may deem proper.

208.3. To have special supervision of all the missions of the Church of the Nazarene within the bounds of his assembly district.

208.4. To appoint someone to fill a vacancy, should one occur in the office of district secretary. [216.1]

208.5. To appoint someone to fill a vacancy, should one occur in the office of district treasurer. [219.1]

208.6. To advise with the church board concerning the nomination of an elder or a licensed minister to pastor a local church and to approve or disapprove such nomination. [122, 136.2]

208.7. To approve or disapprove the renewal of the call of a pastor. [130]

208.8. To approve or disapprove the granting of license to any member of the Church of the Nazarene who may request local preacher's license or renewal of local preacher's license from the church board of a local church not having an elder as pastor. [402, 402.2]

208.9. To approve or disapprove in writing for nomination by the pastor to the local church board

such paid local assistants as assistant pastors, ministers or directors of Christian education, directors of youth work, or directors of music. [136.29, 181.1-81.5]

**208.10.** With the District Advisory Board to approve or disapprove requests from local churches to operate full-time weekday Christian day school programs.

**209.** The district superintendent, with the consent of the church board, may appoint a pastoral supply to fill a vacancy in the office of pastor until the next District Assembly. Such appointed pastoral supply shall be subject to removal by the district superintendent, when his services are not satisfactory to the church board and the local church. [136.4, 402.5]

**210.** The district superintendent is authorized to perform for a local church within the bounds of his assembly district all the functions of pastor when that local church is without a pastor or pastoral supply. [114]

**210.1.** The district superintendent may preside at the annual, or a special, meeting of a local church, or appoint someone to represent him. [112.4]

**211.** If for any reason the general superintendent having jurisdiction fails to be present or to appoint a representative to be present in his stead at the District Assembly, the district superintendent shall call the District Assembly to order, and shall preside until other provision may be made by the District Assembly. [308]

**212.** The district superintendent may fill vacancies in the District Board of Ministerial Studies [229.1], the District Board of Christian Life [238], the District Board of Orders and Relations [226.1], the District

Auditing Committee [203.31], the District Board of Home Missions [203.25], the District Board of Church Properties [203.21], and the District Ways and Means Committee. [203.36]

213. The district superintendent shall be ex officio chairman of the District Advisory Board [221] and the District Board of Orders and Relations. [227.1]

213.1. The district superintendent shall be a member ex officio of the District Board of Christian Life, of the council of the District Nazarene Youth International, and of the council of the District Nazarene World Missionary Society. [238, 810.2, 811.2]

214. The district superintendent shall be chairman of the District Advisory Council. [244]

215. All official acts of the district superintendent shall be subject to review and revision by the District Assembly, and subject to appeal. [507.3]

## F. The District Secretary

216. The district secretary, elected by the District Assembly, shall serve until the final adjournment of the next District Assembly and until his successor is elected and qualified. [203.16]

216.1. If the district secretary shall cease to serve, for any cause, in the interim of sessions of the District Assembly, the district superintendent shall appoint someone to succeed him. [208.4]

216.2. The district secretary shall be a member ex officio of the District Assembly. [201]

217. The duties of the district secretary shall be:

217.1. To record correctly and preserve faithfully all minutes of the District Assembly.

217.2. To record correctly and preserve all statistics of the district.

217.3. To forward all statistical charts to the General Secretary to be audited before their publication in the official journal. [323.6]

217.4. To be custodian of all documents of the District Assembly, and turn them over promptly to his successor.

217.5. To cause to be bound in permanent binding for district files the full official journal for each quadrennium. [205.5]

217.6. To forward sufficient copies of the printed journal of each District Assembly to General Headquarters for distribution among the general officers and general boards of the Church of the Nazarene.

217.7. To present to the General Assembly, for the District Assembly, the full official journal for the preceding quadrennium, bound in permanent binding. [203.32, 205.5]

217.8. To do whatever else may pertain to his office.

217.9. To refer all items of business coming to him during the year to the proper assembly committee or standing board.

218. The district secretary may have as many assistants as the District Assembly shall elect.

### G. The District Treasurer

219. The district treasurer, elected by the District Assembly, shall serve until the final adjournment of the next District Assembly and until his successor is elected and qualified. [303.17]

219.1. If the district treasurer shall cease to serve, for any cause, in the interim of sessions of the District Assembly, the district superintendent shall appoint someone to succeed him. [303.5]

**219.2.** The district treasurer shall be a member, *ex officio*, of the District Assembly. [201]

**220.** The duties of the district treasurer shall be:

**220.1.** To receive all such moneys from his district as may be designated by the General Assembly, or by the District Assembly, or as the needs of the Church of the Nazarene may require, and disburse the same according to the direction and policies of the District Assembly and the District Advisory Board.

**220.2.** To keep a correct record of all moneys received and disbursed and to render an annual report to the District Assembly, to which he shall be amenable.

#### **H. The District Advisory Board**

**221.** The District Advisory Board shall be composed of the district superintendent *ex officio* and two elders and two laymen elected annually by ballot by the District Assembly, to serve until the final adjournment of the next District Assembly and until their successors are elected and qualified, provided, however, that when the district exceeds a total membership of 5,000, it may elect one additional elder and one additional layman for each successive 2,500 members and the final major part of 2,500 members. [203.18, 213]

**221.1.** A vacancy on the District Advisory Board may be filled by the remaining members thereof.

**221.2.** The district superintendent shall be *ex officio* chairman of the District Advisory Board.

**221.3.** The lay members of the District Advisory Board shall be *ex officio* members of the District Assembly. [201, 221]

**222.** The duties of the District Advisory Board shall be:

**222.1.** To set the date for the beginning and closing of the statistical year in harmony with the provisions of 113.1

**222.2.** To give information to and consult with the district superintendent respecting the ministers and local churches of the assembly district. [118]

**222.3.** To inform and advise with the general superintendent regarding the pastoral arrangements for the coming year. [126, 308.1]

**222.4.** To appoint an investigating committee consisting of three or more elders in case an accusation is filed against an elder or a licensed minister. [502]

**222.5.** To select a trial court in case charges are made against an elder or licensed minister. [502]

**222.6.** To recommend to the Department of Pensions and Benevolence of the General Board the disbursement of funds for the temporal relief of aged ministers, and for the widows and orphans of ministers who have died in the work. [205.7, 355.2, 407]

**222.7.** To incorporate, where civil law permits and when authorized by the District Assembly. After incorporation, as above provided, the District Advisory Board shall have power, on its own resolution, to purchase, own, sell, exchange, mortgage, deed in trust, hypothecate, lease, and convey any property, real and personal, as may be necessary or convenient for the purpose of the corporation. [203.37]

**222.8.** In states where the civil law does not permit such incorporation, then the District Assembly may elect the District Advisory Board as district trustee with power, on its own resolution, to purchase, own, sell, exchange, mortgage, deed in trust, hypothecate, lease, and convey any property, real and personal, as

may be necessary or convenient for the purpose of carrying on its work in the district. [106.1, 222.7]

**222.9.** The District Advisory Board, in states where it is possible for local churches to incorporate, shall, with the advice of competent legal counsel, provide pattern incorporation forms adequate for the state or states of its district. This pattern incorporation form shall always include the provision set forth in 102.

**222.10.** To submit to the Board of General Superintendents any plans proposed for the creation of a district center. Such plans shall require the approval in writing of the Board of General Superintendents before they are put in operation. [319]

**222.11.** To recommend the renewal of license for the licensed minister serving as pastor. [403.4]

**222.12.** To recommend elders to the assembly for licensing as commissioned evangelists, upon written request for such license having been received by the district superintendent.

**223.** The District Advisory Board may issue a transfer of membership to an elder, a licensed minister, a minister of Christian education, or a deaconess, who desires to transfer to another District Assembly, before the meeting of the District Assembly in which such person's membership is held. Such transfers may be accepted by the receiving District Advisory Board, granting to said elder, licensed minister, minister of Christian education, or deaconess full rights and privileges of membership on the district on which it is received. The receiving District Assembly shall have final approval of all such Advisory Board transfer receptions. [203.5, 406, 418.1]

**224.** The District Advisory Board may suspend a licensed deaconess when it is required for the good of

the church, after a conference with the church board of the local church of which the licensed deaconess is a member, and after giving her a fair hearing, and with the approval of the district superintendent. [416.4]

225. In case a licensed or ordained minister presenting credentials from another evangelical denomination shall, during the interim of sessions of the District Assembly, make application to unite with the Church of the Nazarene, his credentials shall be examined by the District Advisory Board. Only with the favorable recommendation of the District Advisory Board shall such applicant be received into membership in the local church. [403.1, 405]

#### **I. The District Board of Orders and Relations**

226. The District Board of Orders and Relations shall be composed of not less than 5 nor more than 15 elders, 1 of whom shall be the district superintendent. The proper proportion may be elected annually by the District Assembly to serve for a period of four years and until their successors are elected and qualified. [203.19, 230.1]

226.1. A vacancy occurring in the Board of Orders and Relations, in the interim of the District Assemblies, may be filled by the district superintendent. [212]

227. Following the election of the Board of Orders and Relations the district superintendent shall call a meeting of the board for organization as follows:

227.1. The district superintendent shall serve as chairman *ex officio* of the board; however, upon his request the board may elect an acting chairman to serve in such relationship until the close of the next District Assembly. [213]

**227.2.** The board shall elect from its membership a permanent secretary who shall provide a suitable system of records, at the expense of the District Assembly, which shall be the property of the district. The secretary shall carefully record all actions of the board and faithfully preserve them along with such other records as shall be relevant to the work of the board and promptly transmit them to his successor.

**228.** The duties of the Board of Orders and Relations shall be:

**228.1.** To carefully examine and consider all persons who have been properly presented to the District Assembly for election to elder's orders, minister's license, consecrated deaconess' certificate, deaconess' license, commissioned evangelists, registered evangelists, commissioned song evangelists, registered song evangelists, directors of music, commissioned ministers of Christian education, and licensed directors of Christian education, and any other special relations provided by the *Manual*. The Board of Orders and Relations will report favorably to the District Assembly those candidates who, in their judgment, qualify for election. They shall also carefully consider all transfers to and from the district, except interim transfers issued by the Advisory Board, all orders presented for recognition from other denominations, all candidates for restoration of orders, and report to the assembly their recommendation for those who, in their judgment, qualify.

**228.2.** To carefully inquire of each candidate and make any other investigation they deem advisable concerning his personal experience of salvation, his personal experience of entire sanctification by the

baptism of the Holy Spirit, his knowledge of the doctrines of the Bible, his full acceptance of the doctrines, the general and special rules, and the polity of the church, his evidence of graces, gifts, intellectual, moral, and spiritual qualifications, and general fitness for the ministry to which he feels called.

**228.3.** To review for approval for reappointment any local preacher who has been appointed as supply pastor if he is to continue his service after the District Assembly following his appointment. [402.5]

**228.4.** To investigate and review the cause of failure of an elder to report to the District Assembly for two successive years and make recommendation to the District Assembly relative to the continued listing of the name on the published roll of elders.

**228.5.** To investigate reports concerning any elder indicating that he has placed his church membership with any other church or that he has joined with the ministry of another denomination or group, or is participating in independent activities without duly authorized permission, and make recommendation to the District Assembly relative to his retention on the roll of elders. [111.3, 404.7]

**228.6.** To recommend to the District Assembly the retired relation for any minister upon his request, who has reached the age of 65 years or who thereafter, in the discretion of the board, is unable to continue in the active ministerial labors because of physical disability. [203.33-34, 407]

### **J. The District Board of Ministerial Studies**

**229.** The District Board of Ministerial Studies shall be composed of five or more elders, elected by the District Assembly within six months of a General As-

sembly, to serve for a term of four years and until their successors are elected and qualified.

229.1. Vacancies occurring in the District Board of Ministerial Studies, in the interim of sessions of the District Assembly, may be filled by the district superintendent. [212]

230. Before the close of the District Assembly in which the board is elected, the district superintendent or district secretary shall call a meeting of all the members of the board for organization and assignment as follows:

230.1. The board shall elect from among its members a permanent chairman and a permanent secretary, both of whom may be exempt from the direct work of supervision and who shall be *ex officio* members of the Board of Orders and Relations.

230.2. The chairman shall assign to the other members of the board the enrolled home study candidates in all five courses for which each member shall be responsible. Such assignments shall continue as long as the respective candidates remain actively enrolled within the member's term of office, unless otherwise mutually arranged.

230.3. The chairman shall attend all meetings of the board, unless providentially prevented, and shall oversee the work of the board each year. In case of necessary absence of the chairman, the secretary shall do his work, *pro tempore*.

230.4. The secretary shall, at the expense of the District Assembly, provide a suitable record book of ministerial studies, which shall be the property of the District Assembly, and shall be used according to instructions in the *Handbook on the Ministry*.

230.5. The other members of the board shall attend

faithfully the meetings of the board, and shall supervise the candidates assigned to them by (1) fraternal encouragement, counsel, and guidance; (2) tutoring in specific subjects when needed and feasible; (3) and administering or arranging for the proctoring of written examinations in cooperation with the Department of Education and the Ministry.

231. The board may establish classes or seminars in order to assist licensed ministers or other candidates in the pursuit of the various courses of study, and establish, subject to approved district funding, central libraries of all books for loan when necessary.

231.1. The board shall cooperate with the district superintendent and the Department of Education and the Ministry in seeking ways to encourage, aid, and guide the candidates who are pursuing the courses of study in a Nazarene college or seminary.

231.2. The board shall carry out its responsibilities in conformity with the official *Handbook on the Ministry*.

231.3. The board shall report all relevant data concerning the candidate to the District Board of Orders and Relations upon request, and recommend to the District Assembly placement and advancement, and in conjunction with the Department of Education and the Ministry, recommend graduation from the various courses of study.

231.4. The District Board of Ministerial Studies shall be responsible, in cooperation with the zone college and the Department of Education and the Ministry, and under the general guidance of the district superintendent, for the promotion on the district of continuing education for ordained ministers and other staff ministers.

### **K. The District Board of Home Missions**

233. The District Board of Home Missions shall be composed of equal lay and ministerial membership, of no fewer than 6 nor more than 18, not including the district superintendent who shall be a member *ex officio*. Members may be elected by the District Assembly to serve for a term of four years and until their successors are elected and qualified; however, the District Advisory Board may constitute the District Board of Home Missions.

233.1. The District Board of Home Missions shall seek by all means—by the diffusion of home missionary information, by the holding of local meetings and district conventions, by the employment of speakers who have the vision and spirit, by careful study of its metropolitan areas, and by any other contributive agency—to stir the people to holy zeal and devotion for, and liberality toward, the sacred cause of home missions.

233.2. The District Board of Home Missions, under direction of the District Assembly, and in cooperation with the district superintendent, may have charge of all home mission work conducted by the assembly district within its bounds.

### **L. The District Board of Church Properties**

234. The District Board of Church Properties shall be composed of equal lay and ministerial representation of no fewer than 6 nor more than 12 members, not including the district superintendent, who shall be a member *ex officio*, elected by the District Assembly to serve until the final adjournment of the next District Assembly and until their successors are elected and qualified. [203.21]

**235.** The duties of the District Board of Church Properties shall be:

**235.1.** To advance the cause of building houses of worship and parsonages within the bounds of the assembly district, in cooperation with the Department of Home Missions of the General Board. [352.4-52.5]

**235.2.** To verify and conserve the titles to church property. [352.6]

**235.3.** To assist local churches to incorporate. [102, 352.6]

**235.4.** To consider propositions submitted by local churches relating to the purchase of real estate or the erection of church buildings or parsonages, and to advise them concerning the propositions submitted. [103]

**235.5.** To approve or disapprove, in conjunction with the district superintendent, propositions submitted by local churches relative to church building plans and the incurring of indebtedness in the purchase of real estate or the erection of buildings.

**235.6.** To do whatever else the District Assembly may direct regarding the matter of church property.

### **M. The District Board of Ministerial Benevolence**

**236.** The District Board of Ministerial Benevolence shall be composed of as many members as the District Assembly may elect, to serve until the final adjournment of the next District Assembly and until their successors are elected and qualified. [203.22]

**236.1.** The District Board of Ministerial Benevolence shall have full power to dispense local benevolence according to its judgment, subject to the approval of the District Assembly.

## N. The District Colporteur

237. A district colporteur may be elected annually by the District Assembly upon the recommendation of the Department of Publication of the General Board; he shall labor under the jurisdiction of the district superintendent and shall be amenable to the District Assembly. [203.28]

237.1. The district colporteur shall cooperate with the Department of Publication in the systematic distribution of gospel literature. [357.2]

## O. The District Board of Christian Life (Church Schools/Youth)

238. The District Board of Christian Life (Church Schools/Youth) shall be composed of the district superintendent, the district NWMS president, the district NYI president who may serve as the district director of youth ministries, who with the chairman shall comprise the Executive Committee, and four other members, elected as follows: a chairman elected annually by the District Assembly from two or more nominees submitted by the District Nominating Committee; three others shall be elected from six nominees with one being elected for a term of three years, one for a term of two years, and one for a term of one year. Thereafter, each year, one person shall be elected by the District Assembly to serve for the full term of three years and until his successor is elected and qualified. [203.24, 213.1]

238.1. When the district exceeds a total membership of 5,000, two may be elected to serve for a term of three years, two for a term of two years, and two for a term of one year. Thereafter, each year, two persons

may be elected to serve for the full term of three years and until their successors are elected and qualified. Where possible, four of the nine should be laymen.

**238.2.** The District Board of Christian Life (Church Schools/Youth) shall meet within one week following the District Assembly to organize. They shall elect a secretary, and a treasurer, and a district director of adult ministries, a district director of youth ministries, a district director of children's ministries, a district director of lay training, who shall be ex officio members, and other district directors deemed necessary, from nominations presented by the Executive Committee of the board (as provided in 238.4).

**238.3.** They may elect a Council of Children's Ministries whose chairman shall be the district director of children's ministries and whose members shall be the district directors of boys' and girls' camps, Caravans, vacation Bible school, quizzing, Cradle Roll, and any others deemed necessary.

**238.4.** There shall be a Council of Youth Ministries whose chairman shall be the district director of youth ministries and whose members shall be the District NYI Council.

**238.5.** They may elect a Council of Adult Ministries whose chairman shall be the district director of adult ministries and whose members shall be the district directors of the Home Department, CST, Christian family life, laymen's retreat, evangelism, and any others deemed necessary.

**238.6.** The chairman of the District Board of Christian Life (Church Schools/Youth) shall coordinate all programs relating to children's, youth, and adult ministries; give guidance to the supervision of all

programs and promotion relating to Sunday school; and prepare for the Board a written report for printing in the annual assembly journal. [241.5]

238.7. Vacancies occurring in the Board, in the interim of the sessions of the District Assembly, may be filled by the district superintendent.

238.8. There may also be appointed by the District Board a director of vacation Bible schools, a director of Caravans, a director of Cradle Roll work, directors of boys' and girls' camp, a director of senior adult ministries work, a director of Christian family life, a director of visitation, a director of children's church, and other directors as may be needed. These officers may be appointed from among the members of the District Board of Christian Life (Church Schools/Youth) or otherwise, but they shall be amenable to that board. (The chairman shall be ex officio director of the quadrennial program.)

238.9. The District Board shall hold a meeting immediately preceding or at the same time as the District Assembly to complete its work for the year and to prepare a report to be presented to the District Assembly. Additional meetings may be held whenever necessary.

238.10. The chairman of the District Board shall be an ex officio member of the District Assembly.

239. The District Board shall arrange for an annual District Sunday School Convention, NYI Convention, in conjunction with the District NYI Council, and other conventions to be held at some time during the year or immediately preceding the meeting of the District Assembly.

239.1. At the Sunday School Convention the chairman of the Board of Christian Life and divisional

superintendents of all the local schools are expected to be present and take part as opportunity affords. The convention program shall provide for special addresses, papers, discussions, and periods for general consultation relative to the district Sunday school interests. [156.5]

240. The district may be divided into zones with zone chairpersons appointed by the District Board, who shall work under the supervision of that board. Zone conventions should be held.

241. The duties of the District Board of Christian Life (Church Schools/Youth) shall be:

241.1. To have full supervision of all Sunday school interests of the district.

241.2. To conduct district, zone, and/or group conventions and Christian Service Training schools.

241.3. To assist the Division of Christian Life (Church Schools/Youth) of the General Board in securing information relating to district and local Sunday school interests.

241.4. To promote and encourage Sunday school and all children's, youth, and adult ministries throughout the district.

241.5. To present an annual written report through its chairman to the district secretary for printing in the district journal which shall include (1) a statement of the work accomplished by the District Board during the past year, (2) a statement of the general condition of the Sunday schools and all children's, youth, and adult ministries during the past year, and (3) recommendations for the work for the ensuing year.

241.6. To recommend to the District Assembly the amount considered necessary to be placed in the

District Budget to finance the District Board of Christian Life (Church Schools/Youth) work for the ensuing year, or to make other plans for raising the same. [203.36]

### **P. The District Nazarene Youth International**

242. The District Nazarene Youth International shall be composed of the local organizations of Nazarene Youth International of the assembly district.

242.1. It shall be governed by the constitution of the District Nazarene Youth International approved by the General Assembly. [810.2]

242.2. The president of the District Nazarene Youth International shall be elected by its annual convention and shall serve without salary. When so elected and approved, he shall be a member ex officio of the District Assembly. [201]

### **Q. The District Nazarene World Missionary Society**

243. The District Nazarene World Missionary Society shall be composed of the local Nazarene World Missionary Societies within the boundaries of the assembly district. The district society shall be auxiliary to the general Nazarene World Missionary Society. [811.2-11.3]

243.1. The District Nazarene World Missionary Society shall be governed by the constitution of the District Nazarene World Missionary Society approved by the Department of World Mission. It shall be subject to the district superintendent, the District Advisory Board, and the District Assembly. [811.2]

243.2. The president of the District Nazarene World Missionary Society shall serve without salary and shall be a member *ex officio* of the District Assembly. [201]

### **R. The District Advisory Council**

244. The district boards shall form an advisory council over which the district superintendent shall preside, said council to meet, if possible, once each six months for counsel and advice as to the best methods of forwarding the work of the assembly district. [214]

### **S. Disorganization of a District**

245. When it seems clear to the Board of General Superintendents that a district no longer should continue as such, it may, upon their recommendation, be disorganized by a two-thirds favorable vote of the General Board of the Church of the Nazarene and a formal pronouncement thereof. [200]

245.1. In case a district becomes officially disorganized, any church property which shall exist may in no way be diverted to other purposes, but shall pass to the control of the General Board, for the use of the Church of the Nazarene at large, as the General Assembly shall direct; and trustees holding property, or corporations created to hold property, for the disorganized district shall sell or dispose of the same only on the order and under the direction of the appointed agent of the General Board, and turn the funds over to such agent. [106.1, 222.7]

## CHAPTER III

## THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY

## A. Functions and Organization

300. The General Assembly is the supreme doctrine-formulating and lawmaking and elective authority of the Church of the Nazarene, subject to the provisions of the church constitution. [30.1-30.9]

300.1. The General Assembly shall be presided over by the general superintendents, jointly and severally. [30.6, 307.2]

300.2. The General Assembly shall elect its other officers and organize itself for the transaction of its business according to its wisdom and pleasure. [30.7]

## B. Membership of the General Assembly

301. The General Assembly shall be composed of ministerial and lay delegates in equal numbers from each regular or mission district, the district superintendent serving as one of the ministerial delegates, the remaining ministerial delegates and all the lay delegates elected thereto by the District Assemblies of the Church of the Nazarene; the general superintendents emeritus and retired; the general superintendents; the General Secretary; the General Treasurer; the editor of the *Herald of Holiness*; the executive coordinator of the Division of Christian Life; the executive directors of the several departments of the General Board; the executive director of the General Nazarene World Missionary Society; the presidents of the educational institutions under the Department of Education and the Ministry; one missionary delegate

for each of the first 25 or fewer missionaries from each of the following world mission areas: (1) Mexico and Central America, (2) Caribbean, (3) South America, (4) Middle East and Europe, (5) Africa, (6) Asia, Orient, and South Pacific; and one additional missionary delegate for the next 50 missionaries or final major fraction thereof, nominated by the Mission Councils in each area and elected by the Department of World Mission. In the absence of such nomination, the missionary representative shall be elected by the Department of World Mission.

**301.1.** Each regular or mission assembly district shall be entitled to representation in the General Assembly by: Two elders and two laymen for 2,500 or fewer church members, and one additional elder and one additional layman for each successive 2,500 members, and the final major part of 2,500 members.

**301.2.** A pioneer or national-mission district shall be entitled to one delegate to the General Assembly. The district superintendent shall be the delegate. The district shall elect an alternate who must be a member of the district when elected and at the time of the General Assembly.

**301.3.** The right of a ministerial delegate-elect to the General Assembly to represent the District Assembly electing him shall be vacated in case he shall accept a pastoral charge or the office of district superintendent on another assembly district, or if he shall leave the active full-time ministry of the Church of the Nazarene, prior to the convening of the General Assembly.

**301.4.** The right of a lay delegate-elect to the General Assembly to represent the District Assembly electing him shall be vacated in case he shall remove

his church membership to some local church on another assembly district prior to the convening of the General Assembly.

### **C. The Time and Place of Meeting**

**302.** The General Assembly shall meet in the month of June, every fourth year, at such time and place as shall be determined by a General Assembly Commission composed of the general superintendents and an equal number of persons chosen by the Board of General Superintendents. The general superintendents and said commission shall also have power, in case of an emergency, to change the time and place of the meeting of the General Assembly. [902.13-2.14]

**302.1.** The General Assembly shall open on Sunday with a full day of devotional and inspirational services. Provision shall be made for the orderly and careful transaction of business, and for such services at the close of the session as it may order. The General Assembly shall fix the time at which its session shall adjourn. [30.4]

### **D. Special Sessions**

**303.** The Board of General Superintendents, or a majority thereof, by and with the written consent of two-thirds of all the district superintendents, shall have power to call a special session of the General Assembly in case of an emergency, the time and place thereof to be determined by the general superintendents and a commission chosen by the Board of General Superintendents.

**303.1.** In case of a special session of the General As-

sembly, the delegates and alternates to the last preceding General Assembly, or their duly elected and qualified successors, shall serve as delegates and alternates to the special session.

### **E. General Assembly Arrangements Committee**

**304.** The General Secretary, the General Treasurer, and three persons appointed by the Board of General Superintendents at least one year before the convening of the General Assembly shall constitute the General Assembly Arrangements Committee.

**304.1.** The General Assembly Arrangements Committee shall have authority to arrange all necessary details regarding offices, exhibits and space, entertainment and meals, and whatever else may be needful to contribute to the comfort, convenience, and efficiency of the General Assembly, and enter into contracts necessary to provide the same.

**304.2.** The General Assembly Arrangements Committee with the general superintendents shall formulate a program for the General Assembly, including anniversaries for each of the general interests; a Communion service; and other religious services for the first three days of the General Assembly or until a committee on public worship shall have been appointed; all of which program shall be subject to approval by the General Assembly.

### **F. Business of the General Assembly**

**305.** The business of the General Assembly, subject to Part Three, Article IV, Section 3, of the Church Constitution, shall be: [30.9]

**305.1.** To elect, by a two-thirds vote of its members

present and voting, as many general superintendents as it may deem necessary, who shall hold office until the final adjournment of the next General Assembly and until their successors are elected and qualified; provided that the first ballot shall be a "yes" or "no" ballot for the general superintendents then serving and any vacancies remaining after the first ballot shall be filled by ensuing ballots until the elections are completed. No person shall be elected to the office of general superintendent who has not attained the age of 35 years, or has reached the age of 68 years. [305, 306, 900.1]

305.2. To elect a general superintendent to the emeritus relation when deemed advisable, provided he shall have become disabled or shall have reached his sixty-eighth birthday, and shall have served as general superintendent for three or more quadrennia. It is thereby understood that his election to emeritus relation is of life tenure. [314.1]

305.3. To place in the retired relation a general superintendent who has attained to the age of 68 years, or who, in the judgment of the General Assembly, has become disqualified by physical disability, or by old age, or by any other disqualification that would prevent him from caring adequately for the work of the general superintendency; and provided that he has served in the office of general superintendent for a reasonable term of years. The General Assembly may grant retired relation when a general superintendent who has attained the age of 65 years requests it.

Should a general superintendent who has attained the age of 65 years request retirement in the interim of General Assemblies, his request may be granted by

the General Board in regular session upon recommendation of the Board of General Superintendents. [314.1]

**305.4.** To fix a suitable retirement pension for each retired general superintendent.

**305.5.** To elect a general secretary, as provided in 305.12 herein, who shall hold office until the final adjournment of the next General Assembly and until his successor is elected and qualified. [305.12, 322, 334, 900.2]

**305.6.** To elect a general treasurer, as provided in 305.12 herein, who shall hold office until the final adjournment of the next General Assembly and until his successor is elected and qualified. [305.12, 326, 334, 900.3]

**305.7.** To elect a General Board, as provided in 329.1-30.4, to serve until the final adjournment of the next General Assembly and until their successors are elected and qualified. [328, 330, 901.1]

**305.8.** To elect a General Court of Appeals, consisting of five elders, to serve until the final adjournment of the next General Assembly and until their successors are elected and qualified. [30.8, 507, 901.2]

**305.9.** To elect a Board of Trustees for the Nazarene Theological Seminary, as provided in 387, to serve until the final adjournment of the next General Assembly, and until their successors are elected and qualified. [901.5]

**305.10.** To elect a Board of Trustees for the Nazarene Bible College as provided in 386, to serve until the final adjournment of the next General Assembly and until their successors are elected and qualified. [901.6]

**305.11.** To elect an editor of the *Herald of Holiness*,

as provided in 305.12 herein, who shall serve until the final adjournment of the next General Assembly and until his successor is elected and qualified. He shall be an ex officio member of the General Assembly. [301, 334, 360, 900.4]

**305.12.** To form a Committee on Special Nominations composed as follows: The General Assembly Committee on Nominations shall select as many persons as there are general superintendents, who jointly with the Board of General Superintendents shall constitute the Committee on Special Nominations. The Committee on Special Nominations shall nominate to the General Assembly three persons for each of the following offices: general secretary, general treasurer, and editor of *Herald of Holiness*. From these nominations the General Assembly shall elect one person to each office, provided, however, that an incumbent in any of these positions may be voted upon by a YES or NO vote, upon the recommendation of the Board of General Superintendents to the General Board and the approval of the General Board. [305.5-5.6, 305.11]

**305.13.** To do anything else, in harmony with the Holy Scriptures, that wisdom may dictate for the general welfare of the Church of the Nazarene and the holy cause of Christ, subject to the Church Constitution. [30.9]

## G. The General Superintendents

**305.** The general superintendents, elected by the General Assembly, shall serve until the final adjournment of the next General Assembly and until their successors are elected and qualified. [305.1]

**304.1.** A general superintendent shall hold no other general office in the church during his term of office as general superintendent. [311]

**304.2.** The general superintendents shall be members ex officio of the General Assembly. [301]

**307.** The duties of the general superintendents shall be:

**307.1.** To have general supervision of the Church of the Nazarene, subject to the law and order as adopted by the General Assembly.

**307.2.** To preside over the General Assembly and over the General Board of the Church of the Nazarene, jointly and severally. [300.1, 333.2]

**307.3.** To ordain, or appoint others to ordain, in connection with the elders present, those who have been duly elected to be elders. [404.2]

**308.** A general superintendent shall preside over each District Assembly; or, should he be hindered, shall make suitable arrangements for such presidency. [202, 211]

**308.1.** The general superintendent, presiding over a District Assembly, the district superintendent, and the District Advisory Board, in concurrence with the delegates of local churches, shall appoint pastors over such local churches as have not regularly called pastors. [128, 222.3]

**309.** The general superintendents, jointly and severally, may appoint district superintendents over assembly districts where vacancies occur. [207]

**309.1.** The general superintendent having jurisdiction shall appoint an elder to fill a vacancy that may occur in a District Court of Appeals in the interim of sessions of the District Assembly. [203.27, 506]

**309.2.** The general superintendent having jurisdic-

tion may, prior to the convening of the District Assembly, appoint a nominating committee to serve during the annual session of the District Assembly. [302.1]

**310.** The general superintendent having jurisdiction may, after consulting with the district superintendent, organize local churches or recognize the local churches already organized, wherever there may seem to be need and providential openings. Official reports shall be filed in the Department of Home Missions. He may appoint pastors to have charge of such local churches until such time as pastors may be duly elected. [100, 208.1, 404.9]

**310.1.** The general superintendent having jurisdiction may preside at the annual, or a special, meeting of a local church, or appoint someone to represent him. [112.4]

**311.** The general superintendents shall not be members of any of the general boards of the Church of the Nazarene. [306.1]

**312.** All official acts of the general superintendents shall be subject to review and revision by the General Assembly.

**312.1.** Any official act of a general superintendent may be nullified by a unanimous vote of the remaining members of the Board of General Superintendents.

**313.** The office of any general superintendent may be declared vacant, for cause, by the unanimous vote of the remaining members of the Board of General Superintendents, supported by a majority vote of all the district superintendents of regular and mission districts.

## H. General Superintendents Emeritus and Retired

314. All general superintendents emeritus and retired general superintendents shall be members ex officio of the General Assembly. [301]

314.1. A general superintendent who has been elected to the emeritus relation or placed in the retired relation shall not be a member of the Board of General Superintendents, and shall be relieved of all official responsibility. However, in the event that an active general superintendent should be incapacitated by illness, hospitalization, or other unavoidable emergency necessitating his absence from any assignment, the Board of General Superintendents is empowered to call into temporary assignment any retired general superintendent. [305.2-5.4]

### I. The Board of General Superintendents

315. The general superintendents shall organize as a board, and arrange for and assign to the members thereof the particular work over which they shall have special jurisdiction.

316. Vacancy. If a vacancy occurs, by death or otherwise, in the Board of General Superintendents, in the interim of sessions of the General Assembly, the question of calling for an election to fill the vacancy shall be decided by the Board of General Superintendents. Upon receipt of the Board's decision, the General Secretary shall notify at once all district superintendents of regular and mission districts. When an election is called for, the district superintendents of the regular and mission districts shall elect, by a two-thirds vote of all eligible to vote, an elder of the Church of the Nazarene to fill the vacancy and to

perform the duties of the general superintendent until the final adjournment of the next General Assembly.

316.1. The General Secretary shall report the result of the vote to the Board of General Superintendents, which shall announce the same to the Church of the Nazarene through the *Herald of Holiness*.

317. The duties of the Board of General Superintendents shall be:

317.1. To have supervision of the missionary work of the Church of the Nazarene in all world mission areas. These areas shall be visited as frequently as the Board of General Superintendents shall deem advisable. The responsibility for supervision may be assigned by the Board of General Superintendents to any one of their number for the period of the quadrennium. They shall approve or disapprove all nominations made by the Department of World Mission to the General Board of the Church of the Nazarene for appointment as missionaries. [366.2, 367, 372]

317.2. To recommend, in consultation with the respective executive directors of the Departments of World Mission and Home Missions, changes in the assignment of the areas under the administration of these departments subject to the approval of the General Board. [352.1, 366]

317.3. To have supervision of all general boards and the departments of the General Board. The policies and plans adopted by any board or department shall have the approval of the Board of General Superintendents. The Board of General Superintendents shall have the privilege of making to the General Board and to the departments thereof such recommendations as they shall deem advisable. [336.6, 339.1, 344.1, 352.1, 352.4, 355.1, 357.1, 362]

317.4. To make nominations to the General Board for filling any vacancy that may occur in the following offices during the interim of sessions of the General Assembly: general secretary, general treasurer, editor of *Herald of Holiness*. [322.2, 326.2, 333.18]

317.5. To fill vacancies that may occur in the membership of the General Court of Appeals in the interim of sessions of the General Assembly. [508, 901.2]

317.6. To fill vacancies that may occur in any special commission or committee in the interim of General Assemblies or General Board.

317.7. To approve the appointments and elections made by the General Board of the Church of the Nazarene in filling vacancies that may occur in its membership. [331]

317.8. To fill vacancies, upon nomination made by the remaining members thereof, on the corporate board of the Nazarene Publishing House. [376]

317.9. To appoint one of the general superintendents to serve on the General Council of the Nazarene Youth International. [901.3]

317.10. To appoint quadrennially a general superintendent to have jurisdiction of each of the educational institutions. [346]

317.11. To appoint general superintendents to serve as advisors of the Board of Trustees of Nazarene Theological Seminary, the Board of Trustees of Nazarene Bible College, and all departments of the General Board. [901.5]

317.12. To arrange, in conjunction with the Department of Education and the Ministry, courses of study for local preachers, licensed ministers, licensed deaconesses, song evangelists, ministers of music, and directors of Christian education. [344.9, 420-22]

317.13. The Board of General Superintendents, with the General Board, is authorized and empowered to apportion the General Budget to the several assembly districts. [333.7]

318. The Board of General Superintendents shall be the authority for the interpretation of the law and doctrine of the Church of the Nazarene, and the meaning and force of all provisions of the *Manual*, subject to an appeal to the General Assembly.

319. The Board of General Superintendents shall consider and pass upon plans for district centers, which plans shall not be carried out until they have been approved in writing by the Board of General Superintendents. [222.10]

320. The Board of General Superintendents shall have discretionary power in the ordaining of divorced persons to the office of elder in the Church of the Nazarene, provided such divorced persons have scriptural grounds for divorce. [401.5, 404.1]

321. The Board of General Superintendents shall have authority to do anything else in the service of the Church of the Nazarene, not otherwise provided for, according to the dictates of its wisdom, in harmony with the general church order, and subject to the Church Constitution.

## J. The General Secretary

322. The General Secretary, elected by the General Assembly, as hereinbefore provided [305.12], shall serve until the final adjournment of the next General Assembly and until his successor is elected and qualified. [305.12, 900.2]

322.1. The General Secretary shall be a member ex officio of the General Assembly. [301]

**322.2.** If in the interim of sessions of the General Assembly a vacancy should occur in the office of the General Secretary for any cause, it shall be filled by the General Board, upon nomination by the Board of General Superintendents. [317.4, 333.20]

**322.3.** The General Secretary shall be amenable to the Board of General Superintendents and the General Board.

**323.** The duties of the General Secretary shall be:

**323.1.** To record correctly and preserve the journal of the proceedings of the General Assembly.

**323.2.** To record correctly and preserve all general statistics of the Church of the Nazarene.

**323.3.** To preserve all documents belonging to the General Assembly, and promptly deliver the same to his successor.

**323.4.** To preserve carefully, in permanent form, all decisions rendered by the General Court of Appeals. [510]

**323.5.** To file and preserve all surrendered credentials of ministers and deliver them only on proper order made by the District Assembly of the assembly district from which they were received. [409.1]

**323.6.** To audit assembly district statistical charts for publication. [217.3]

**323.7.** To do faithfully whatever else may be necessary for the fulfillment of his office. [316-16.1]

**324.** The General Secretary shall be the custodian of, and hold in trust, such legal documents as belong to the general church.

**324.1.** The General Secretary is authorized to collect available historic material relating to the rise and development of our denomination, and shall be the custodian of all such records and material.

325. The General Secretary, in conjunction with the general superintendents, shall, prior to the opening of the General Assembly, prepare all necessary forms, including *Rules of Order*, *Manual Abridgment* for revision, and other things necessary for expediting the work of the General Assembly. The expense incurred shall be provided for out of the General Assembly expense fund.

325.1. The General Secretary may have as many assistants for his work as the General Assembly shall elect, or, in the interim of sessions of the General Assembly, the Board of General Superintendents may appoint.

### K. The General Treasurer

326. The General Treasurer, elected by the General Assembly, as hereinbefore provided [305.12], shall serve until the final adjournment of the next General Assembly and until his successor is elected and qualified. [305.6, 900.3]

326.1. The General Treasurer shall be a member ex officio of the General Assembly. [301]

326.2. If, in the interim of sessions of the General Assembly, a vacancy should occur in the office of General Treasurer, for any cause, it shall be filled by the General Board, upon nomination by the Board of General Superintendents. [317.4, 333.20]

326.3. The General Treasurer shall be amenable to the Board of General Superintendents and the General Board.

327. The duties of the General Treasurer shall be:

327.1. To have the custody of all funds belonging to the general interests of the Church of the Nazarene.

**327.2.** To receive, and disburse on order, the funds of the Department of World Mission, the Department of Home Missions, the Department of Evangelism, the Department of Publication, the Department of Pensions and Benevolence, the Department of Education and the Ministry, the Division of Christian Life (Church Schools/Youth), the Department of Communications, the Department of Stewardship, and such other funds as properly belong to the General Board, or to any of its departments; the general superintendents' fund; the general contingent fund; the General Assembly expense fund; other general benevolent church funds; the funds of the General Nazarene Youth International and the funds of the General Nazarene World Missionary Society. [328.3]

**327.3.** To give bond for the faithful performance of his duties, in a reliable surety company, in a good and sufficient sum, as the General Board may direct.

**327.4.** To furnish such reports to the boards and departments, for whose funds he may be custodian, as may be required by them.

**327.5.** To furnish to the General Board an annual report of all finances of the Church of the Nazarene, including investments. [333.12]

**327.6.** To safeguard annuity funds invested in real estate by proper insurance policies and to provide against the lapsing of such policies.

**327.7.** To secure monthly reports of receipts and disbursements from all schools, orphanages, rescue homes, and other institutions of the Church of the Nazarene.

## L. The General Board

328. The General Board of the Church of the Nazarene, a religious and charitable corporation incorporated under the laws of the state of Missouri at Kansas City, Mo., shall be composed of members who shall be elected by ballot by the General Assembly from among the persons nominated as provided in 329.1-29.5. To be elected a member of the General Board as a representative of a church zone, one must be a resident on that zone as well as a member of a local church on that zone. [306.7, 331]

328.1. No one shall be eligible for election to the General Board or shall remain a member of the General Board who is an employee of the General Board, or an employee of any department or institution controlled by the General Board, or deriving a major part of its operating funds from the General Board or general church funds, or an employee of any of our educational institutions, except as provided in 329.3.

328.2. The General Secretary shall be ex officio secretary of the General Board.

328.3. The General Treasurer of the Church of the Nazarene shall be ex officio treasurer of the General Board and also of the departments thereof. [327.2]

329. Nominations for the General Board shall be made as herein provided:

329.1. After the delegates to the General Assembly have been elected, each regular and mission district delegation shall meet to select candidates for nomination to the General Board in the following manner. Each regular district may present names of two elders and two laymen. Each mission district may present names of one elder and one layman.

The names of these candidates shall be sent immediately to the office of the General Secretary to be placed on ballots for presentation to the General Assembly delegates from each zone. [203.29]

**329.2.** From the list of these candidates, the General Assembly delegates from each zone shall nominate to the General Assembly as follows:

Each zone of 25,000 members or less shall nominate two elders and two laymen and each zone with 25,000 to 75,000 members shall nominate four elders and four laymen; and two additional laymen and two additional elders for zones exceeding 75,000 members, with the following provisions:

- (1) Of the elders nominated, one-half shall be pastors or evangelists; the other half shall be district superintendents.
- (2) No district shall have more than two nominees. Whenever more than two candidates from a district receive a higher number of votes than candidates from other districts on the zone, those on another district receiving the next highest number of votes shall be selected as nominees from the zone.

**329.3.** The General Assembly Committee on Ministry and Education shall nominate to the General Assembly four persons from the educational institutions, two elders and two laymen. [328.1]

**329.4.** The General Council of the Nazarene Youth International shall nominate to the General Assembly two members of the General Council. [382.1]

**329.5.** The General Council of the Nazarene World Missionary Society shall nominate to the General Assembly two members of the General Council. [383.3]

**330.** Elections to the General Board shall be as herein provided:

**330.1.** From the nominees presented to the General Assembly by the respective zones, election shall be as follows:

On those zones of 25,000 members or less, the General Assembly shall elect one layman and one elder.

On those zones of more than 25,000 but less than 75,000 members the General Assembly shall elect two laymen and two elders. One elder shall be a pastor or evangelist and the other shall be a district superintendent.

On those zones whose membership is in excess of 75,000 the General Assembly shall elect three laymen and three elders. One elder shall be a pastor or evangelist; another shall be a district superintendent; and the other elder may be in either category.

In each zone the two laymen, the pastor or evangelist, and the district superintendent who receive the highest number of votes in their respective classifications shall be declared elected to the General Board. In the instance of the larger zones where six members are to be elected, the layman and the elder who receive the next highest number of votes shall be declared elected.

No district shall be entitled to more than two members on the General Board and no zone shall be entitled to more than six members (with the exception of department representatives and ex officio members). [305.7, 901.1]

**330.2.** From the nominees presented by the General Assembly Committee on Ministry and Education, the General Assembly shall elect two, one

of whom shall be an elder and one a layman.

**330.3.** From the nominees presented by the General Council of the Nazarene Youth International, the General Assembly shall elect one. [382.1, 901.3]

**330.4.** From the nominees presented by the General Council of the Nazarene World Missionary Society, the General Assembly shall elect one. [383.3, 901.4]

**331.** The members of the General Board shall hold office until the final adjournment of the next General Assembly and until their successors are elected and qualified. [305.7] In the event that a member of the General Board shall move his church membership or residence during the quadrennium from the zone which he represents, his membership shall be terminated immediately. The vacancy so created shall be filled promptly. However, if his move or change occurs after the second annual meeting of the quadrennium, he may complete the term for which he was elected. [328]

**331.1.** Vacancies occurring in the membership of the General Board, and also the departments thereof, shall be filled upon nomination by the Board of General Superintendents, who shall present to the General Secretary, as soon as feasible, the names of two eligible persons from whom the General Board shall elect one by a majority vote by mail.

#### POWERS AND DUTIES OF THE GENERAL BOARD

**333.** The General Board shall promote the financial and material affairs of all the departments of the Church of the Nazarene, subject to such instructions as may be given by the General Assembly. It shall coordinate, correlate, and unify the plans and ac-

tivities of the several constituent departments so that a unified policy may be established by and in all the activities of the Church of the Nazarene. It shall have the power to direct the auditing of the accounts of all departments and institutions relating to or associated with the Church of the Nazarene, with a view to securing such uniformity of method and completeness of form as shall be most efficient; and it shall be an advisory body in the business and administrative affairs of the several departments of the General Board and of all the organizations and institutions that are a part of, related to, or associated with this denomination. These departments, organizations, and institutions shall give due consideration to the advice and recommendations of the General Board.

333.1. The General Board shall have power to buy, own, hold, manage, mortgage, sell and convey and donate, or otherwise acquire, encumber, and dispose of both real and personal property, sold, devised, bequeathed, donated, or otherwise conveyed to it in trust for any lawful purpose, and to execute such trust; to borrow and to loan money in the execution of its lawful purposes.

333.2. The General Board shall meet before or immediately following the final adjournment of the General Assembly and shall organize by electing officers and committees, and members to departments as required by its articles of incorporation and bylaws, to serve until the next annual meeting of the General Board and until their successors are elected and qualified. The general superintendents, jointly and severally, shall preside over the meetings of the General Board.

333.3. *Meetings.* The General Board shall meet in

annual session, at a time specified by the bylaws of the said board, at Kansas City, Mo.; however the hour, date, and place of the annual meeting may, by resolution unanimously adopted at any regular or special meeting, be changed to suit the best interests of the General Board and its departments.

**333.4. Special meetings** of the General Board may be called by the chairman, the president, or the secretary.

**333.5. Finance Committee.** The General Board shall choose a Finance Committee consisting of one member from each department. For this Finance Committee each department shall have the right to nominate one of its own members. The Finance Committee shall have charge of the proper investment of trust funds. The General Board, after first referring to this committee all budget askings submitted by the several departments for the ensuing year, shall receive from the committee a report of its recommendations concerning each request. This committee shall perform any other work assigned to it by the General Board. It shall keep accurate minutes of all its meetings and submit them to the General Board for approval.

**333.6. General Budget.** The General Budget shall be the grand total of all department budgets and other funds to be raised by the whole denomination for the support, maintenance, and promotion of its general activities.

From the statements of budget requests submitted by the various departments and agencies of the church, and from the statements of the General Treasurer, the General Board shall determine the amount to be allotted from the General Budget to

each department and fund. When the General Budget with its proposed allotment to each department shall have been agreed upon, it shall be submitted to the Board of General Superintendents for its consideration, suggestions, or amendments before final adoption by the General Board.

333.7. When the total amount of the General Budget has been fixed for the next fiscal year by the General Board, the General Board and the Board of General Superintendents are authorized and empowered to apportion the General Budget to the several assembly districts on a basis of equity to both the district and general interests affected. [317.13]

333.8. The General Board shall have authority to increase or diminish the amount requested by any department or fund. Items of finance adopted by the General Assembly shall be referred to the General Board, who shall be authorized to adjust proportionately with existing economic conditions the annual allocation of any institution or agency of the church, in keeping with the total financial commitment of the general church.

333.9. The General Board shall approve appropriations from the General Budget for Nazarene Theological Seminary and the Nazarene Bible College as it may deem advisable in line with the availability of funds.

333.10. The General Board shall review and make necessary adjustments in the salaries and related benefits of the general superintendents in the interim of General Assemblies.

333.11. *Reports.* The General Board shall, at its annual meeting, receive a detailed report of the activities of the departments for the past year, including

a financial report. Each department shall also submit a proposed expenditures budget for the ensuing year.

**333.12.** The General Treasurer shall annually present to the General Board a detailed financial report of receipts and disbursements of all funds of which he has been custodian during the past year, including trust funds and investments, together with a detailed statement of the proposed expenditures for the ensuing year of funds not included in the budgets of departments of the General Board. The General Treasurer shall be responsible to the General Board for the faithful performance of his duties. [327.5]

**333.13.** The General Board shall elect three persons residing within convenient travel distance of Kansas City, Mo., to serve as members-at-large on the General Stewardship Council. [365]

**333.14.** The General Board shall elect a Board of Pensions following each General Assembly, who shall serve until the adjournment of the next General Assembly and until their successors are elected and qualified. [374]

**333.15.** The General Board shall elect a Nazarene Publishing House Board following each General Assembly, who shall serve until the adjournment of the next General Assembly and until their successors are elected and qualified. [376]

**333.16.** The General Board shall elect a Nazarene Book Committee Composed of seven members who are available for regular meetings in Kansas City. [358]

**333.17.** The General Board shall properly relate any commission or committee authorized by the General Assembly or General Board to some department or departments, or the Board as a whole, and as-

sign its work, responsibility, and budget.

**333.18. *Department Executives.*** The General Board shall elect an executive director, by ballot, for each of its several division/departments; an executive coordinator of the Division of Christian Life (Church Schools/Youth) and a manager of the Nazarene Publishing House, nominated respectively by the Division of Christian Life and the Department of Publication according to the following processes, to serve until the final adjournment of the next General Assembly and until their successors are elected and qualified, unless removed from office for cause by a two-thirds vote of all the members of the General Board, and with the written approval of the Board of General Superintendents. If there is no incumbent officer, the department or division shall select as many persons as there are general superintendents, who jointly with the Board of General Superintendents shall constitute a nominating committee to present two or more nominations to the General Board. When there is an incumbent officer, the respective department or division shall present one or more nominations which shall have the written approval of the Board of General Superintendents. [334, 336.2]

**333.19. *Executives' Salaries.*** The General Board shall fix the salary of these executive directors, the executive coordinator of the Division of Christian Life, the manager of the Nazarene Publishing House, and such other officers as may be authorized and elected by the General Board.

**333.20.** The General Board, during the interim of sessions of the General Assembly and/or General Board, upon nomination by the Board of General Superintendents, shall fill any vacancy which may oc-

cur in the offices listed in 305.5-5.6, 305.11, 333.18, and any other executive offices created by the General Assembly, General Board, or their elected departments or divisions.

334. The retirement age for all executives listed in 305.5-5.6, 305.11, and 333.18, and any other executive director employed by the General Assembly or its elected commissions, the General Board and its departments, shall be at the time of the General Board meeting following their seventieth birthday; and where there are vacancies they shall be filled in accordance with *Manual* procedures.

### **M. Organizational Units of the General Board**

335. Organizational units to which the General Board may assign its work are:

335.1. *Division*: A unit of the General Board which consists of a cluster of departments to which is assigned program, service, or administrative responsibilities having some logical common interest in relation to the constituency to be served;

335.2. *Department*: A General Board or divisional unit to which is assigned a specific area of responsibility;

335.3. *Board*: An agency administratively related to a division or department whose membership needs to include representative persons or qualified specialists in a related technical field and assigned a special area of program, service, or administrative responsibility;

335.4. *Commission*: A unit created by the General Assembly, the General Board, or the Board of General Superintendents, with a specific function assigned. It

shall report back to its creating unit or upon request to the General Board.

335.5. The General Board shall have the following divisions and departments whose members are designated by vote of the General Board, provided only that no agency shall have more than one-third of the membership of said board:

- (1) Department of Communications
- (2) Department of Education and the Ministry
- (3) Department of Evangelism
- (4) Department of Home Missions
- (5) Department of Pensions and Benevolence
- (6) Department of Publication
- (7) Department of Stewardship
- (8) Department of World Mission
- (9) Division of Christian Life (Church Schools/  
Youth)
  - A. Department of Children's Ministries
  - B. Department of Youth Ministries
  - C. Department of Adult Ministries

335.6. All business transacted by said divisions or departments shall be subject to the approval of the General Board as hereinafter provided in 339, 343, 344, 351, 352, 355, 357, 363, 366.

335.7. Each agency or Committee of the General Board shall be constituted until the final adjournment of the next General Assembly and until successors are elected and qualified unless otherwise specified.

336. The general duties of each division or department shall be:

336.1. To meet before or immediately following the final adjournment of the General Assembly and organize by choosing a chairman, a vice-chairman, a

recording secretary, and a representative to the Finance Committee. The officers shall serve in the usual capacity of their respective offices. Committees may be provided at the pleasure of each agency.

**336.2.** To submit to the General Board one or more nominations from which an executive director shall be elected according to 333.18.

**336.3.** To meet as many days prior to the convening of the General Board as may be necessary to transact its business. Special meetings may be called by the chairman or by the recording secretary.

**336.4.** To be responsible to carry forward the work assigned to it, report annually to the General Board, and quadrennially to the General Assembly, review and approve a budget each year, and likewise account to the General Board for funds and expenditures.

**336.5.** To file with the secretary of the General Board complete minutes of each meeting for the information and approval of the General Board, and furnish any other information requested by the General Board.

**336.6.** To operate within the policies established by the General Assembly and the General Board and be responsive to the guidance of the Board of General Superintendents.

**336.7.** To prepare a report of all work done during the preceding four years, including funds received from all sources and the amounts and purposes for which disbursed, and a program of activities for the next succeeding quadrennium, and this report when approved shall become a part of the report of the General Board to the General Assembly.

**336.8.** No division, department, agency, organization, or institution that is a part of, related to, or as-

sociated with the Church of the Nazarene shall issue annuity bonds, life notes, or other similar financial contracts contrary to the advice of the General Board.

337. The executive officer of each division, department, or board shall be the executive director whose duties shall be:

337.1. To supervise and promote the various phases of the work that may be outlined by that division or department.

337.2. To prepare an annual budget and to authorize disbursement of funds for the expenses of the division or department, subject to such rules and regulations as the division or department may adopt; and in harmony with the General Board financial policy.

337.3. To prepare an annual report of his division or department and a quadrennial report for the General Assembly.

337.4. To employ and supervise such personnel as may be required to properly carry on the work of the department, governed by the personnel and employment policies adopted by the division or department and the General Board.

337.5. To conduct the correspondence pertaining to that agency.

337.6. To be amenable to the Board of General Superintendents and the General Board.

## THE DIVISION OF CHRISTIAN LIFE (CHURCH SCHOOLS/YOUTH)

338. The division shall be composed of the General Board members assigned thereto. Within the Division there shall operate three departments: Department of Children's Ministries, ages birth to 11; Department of

Youth Ministries, ages 12 to 23; Department of Adult Ministries, ages 24 and older. The division may assign its members to the respective departments as it chooses. A general superintendent advisor shall be assigned to the division.

338.1. The division shall have an executive coordinator; and the departments, executive directors; who shall be nominated by the division and the Board of General Superintendents, and elected by the General Board in accordance with provisions of *Manual* 333.18. In areas of editorial policy, the executive coordinator shall be the final authority.

338.2. The division shall have a Coordinating Council, consisting of the executive coordinator, the executive directors, and the editorial directors of each department.

338.3. The executive coordinator of the Division of Christian Life shall give oversight and approval to all periodicals prepared by the division in a manner as the interests of the Church of the Nazarene may require, and in harmony with the editorial policy agreed upon by the division and the Department of Publication. In issues of denominational polity and doctrine he shall be governed by the recommendations of the Board of General Superintendents.

339. The duties of the Division of Christian Life (Church Schools/Youth) shall be:

339.1. To coordinate programs, promotion, and the preparation of Sunday school curriculum for children's, youth, and adult ministries that are biblically sound and in harmony with the doctrines of the Church of the Nazarene, reflecting the best age-level educational philosophy, and in accordance with the guidelines of the Coordinating Council and Department of Publication.

**339.2.** To coordinate the development of age-group curriculum materials which reflect the master objectives for continuity in the learning experiences from childhood through adulthood.

**339.3.** To coordinate the promotion of the unified program and curriculum.

**339.4.** To coordinate the development of the total asking budget of the division.

**339.5.** To coordinate the development of new programs and materials. A department shall have the approval of the Coordinating Council to launch a program or publication.

#### THE DEPARTMENT OF CHILDREN'S MINISTRIES

**340.** The duties of the Department of Children's Ministries [338] shall be:

**340.1.** To provide program and materials to minister to the needs of children from birth through 11 years and in harmony with the Word of God and the doctrines and polity of the Church of the Nazarene and subject to the General Board and Board of General Superintendents.

**340.2.** To promote the organization and work of children's Sunday schools, children's church, summer ministries, including vacation Bible schools, Caravans, camps, Bible clubs, Bible quizzing, missionary education (in cooperation with NWMS), and other Christian education and evangelism activities as assigned by the General Assembly or the General Board.

**340.3.** To prepare for publication materials and guidance for children's ministries in the local church and on the districts that are biblically, doctrinally, and theologically according to Nazarene interpreta-

tion and in line with the best educational principles. Curriculum materials will be coordinated with the Departments of Youth Ministries and Adult Ministries through the Coordinating Council to provide continuous learning experiences from childhood through adulthood. Evangelism and Christian nurture are to permeate these materials and guidance.

**340.4.** To provide general, regional, and district children's leadership training conferences, seminars, and workshops; training for local and district children's workers in cooperation with the Christian Service Training agency; and resource people for equipping local and district leaders, training texts, resources, and periodicals as needed to meet the leadership needs and equip these leaders for children's ministry.

**340.5.** To plan and provide for a general convention coordinated with the Departments of Youth Ministries and Adult Ministries to be constituted with representatives elected from the districts in accordance with the bylaws of the Sunday school.

**340.6.** To meet annually as a Children's Curriculum and Program Committee, reviewing carefully the programs and curriculum materials, modifying as seems desirable, and giving final approval to all programs and materials provided for in children's ministries. Publication plans shall be in harmony with the editorial policy agreed upon by the Children's Ministries department, the Coordinating Council, and the Department of Publication.

**340.7.** To elect an editorial director to be a member of the Coordinating Council from nominations by the executive director with approval of the executive coordinator and the Board of General Superintendents.

## THE DEPARTMENT OF YOUTH MINISTRIES

341. The duties of the Department of Youth Ministries [338] shall be:

341.1. To plan an active ministry with youth 12 through 23 throughout the Church of the Nazarene, and to have general coordination and supervision in the development of youth resources and programs provided for the church at the local, district, and general levels, including the Nazarene Youth International—in harmony with Scripture, the doctrines and polity of the Church of the Nazarene, and subject to the approval of the General Board and the Board of General Superintendents.

341.2. To sustain an active relationship to the youth organization through the General NYI Council, especially through the executive director of the Department of Youth Ministries, who will be an ex officio member of the General NYI Council.

341.3. To perform the task of promoting Sunday school enrollment, Christian education for youth, and the recruitment and training of church school youth workers in the local churches of the Nazarene.

341.4. To promote the organization and work of university campus ministry, summer camps, Bible study, retreats, Bible quizzing, Christian literature, missionary education (in cooperation with NWMS and the Department of World Mission), and other youth ministries as assigned by the General Assembly or the General Board.

341.5. To prepare Sunday school curriculum and resources for youth ministry that are biblically sound and are in harmony with the doctrines of the Church of the Nazarene, and which reflect the best age-level educational philosophy, and are in accordance with the guidelines of the Editorial and Coordinating

Council. Department of Youth Ministries editors and representatives shall serve on a youth subcommittee within the Coordinating Council so as to provide graded curriculum for the youth age level, correlate the youth curricular materials with the other publications, and reflect the master objectives for continuity in the learning experiences from childhood through adulthood and in harmony with the editorial policy agreed upon by the Department of Youth Ministries and the Department of Publication.

341.6. To provide general, regional, and district youth leadership training conferences, seminars, and workshops; training for local and district youth workers in cooperation with the Christian Service Training agency; and resource people for equipping local and district leaders, training texts, resources, and periodicals as needed to meet the leadership needs and equip these leaders for youth ministry.

341.7. To publicize the unified program for youth ministry and provide an overview of the total curriculum for youth 12 through 23 for the local church.

341.8. To provide for ministry to military personnel through literature, retreats, coordination of Nazarene "post pastors" near military installations, and other appropriate services.

341.9. To provide program coordination and arrangements for the Quadrennial General NYI Convention in cooperation with the recommendations of the General NYI Council and in consultation with the Board of General Superintendents.

341.10. To elect an editorial director to be a member of the Coordinating Council from nominations by the executive director with approval of the executive coordinator and the Board of General Superintendents.

341.11. To submit to the General Board, following consultation with five representatives of the General NYI Council, one or more nominations of persons not having reached age 46 at the time of the convening of the General Assembly preceding the term in question, from which an executive director shall be elected according to 333.18.

#### THE DEPARTMENT OF ADULT MINISTRIES

342. The duties of the Department of Adult Ministries [338] shall be:

342.1. To provide program and materials to minister to the needs of adults from age 24, or time of marriage, to death and in harmony with the Word of God and the doctrines and polity of the Church of the Nazarene and subject to the approval of the General Board and the Board of General Superintendents.

342.2. To promote the organization and work of adult Sunday schools, home Bible studies, senior adult ministries, Christian family life, lay retreats, and other Christian education and evangelism activities.

342.3. To prepare for publication materials and guidance for adult ministries in the local church and on the districts that are biblically, doctrinally, and theologically according to Nazarene interpretation and in line with the best educational principles. Curriculum materials will be coordinated with the Departments of Youth Ministries and Children's Ministries through the Coordinating Council to provide continuous learning experiences from childhood through adulthood. Evangelism and Christian nurture are to permeate these materials and this guidance.

342.4. To provide general, regional, and district adult leadership training conferences, seminars, and workshops; training for local and district adult workers in cooperation with the Christian Service Training agency; and resource people for equipping local and district leaders, training texts, resources, and periodicals as needed to meet the leadership needs and equip these leaders for adult ministry.

342.5. To plan and provide for a general convention coordinated with the Departments of Youth Ministries and Children's Ministries to be constituted with representatives elected from the districts in accordance with the bylaws of the Sunday school.

342.6. To meet annually as an Adult Curriculum and Program Committee, reviewing carefully the programs and curriculum materials, modifying as seems desirable, and giving final approval to all programs and materials provided for in adult ministries. Publication plans shall be in harmony with the editorial policy agreed upon by the Department of Adult Ministries, the Coordinating Council, and the Department of Publication.

342.7. To elect an editorial director to be a member of the Coordinating Council from nominations by the executive director with approval of the executive coordinator and the Board of General Superintendents.

#### THE DEPARTMENT OF COMMUNICATIONS

343. The duties of the Department of Communications [335.5] shall be:

343.1. To develop the means for communicating the gospel of Jesus Christ worldwide through mass media, including radio, television, audiovisuals, and

the public press, and to publicize the Church of the Nazarene and its ministries.

**343.2.** To formulate and maintain those specific policies and objectives necessary to insure the production and promotion of programs and resources and the dissemination of news and information that is in harmony with the best interests, doctrines, and general policies and objectives of the Church of the Nazarene.

**343.3.** To work with all agencies of the General Board in planning, approving, producing, and promoting nonprint media resources sponsored by those agencies for use in the local church. The sponsoring agency shall give final approval on any such product. When a single resource of this nature is produced in behalf of several or all agencies of the General Board, responsibility for general planning, approval, and promotion shall rest with the participating agencies.

**343.4.** To awaken and strengthen interest, throughout the church, in the value and proper use of contemporary media resources.

**343.5.** To secure and maintain custody of all general-church-owned communications production equipment, and arrange for supervised and coordinated use by all agencies of the General Board.

#### THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION AND THE MINISTRY

**344.** The duties of the Department of Education and the Ministry [§345.5] shall be:

**344.1.** To promote the cause of education and the work of the ministry in both academic and practical aspects, subject to the approval of the General Board and the Board of General Superintendents. [§317.3]

344.2. To sustain an advisory relationship to all educational institutions now and hereafter related to or associated with the Church of the Nazarene in matters of courses of study, of buildings, location, general business and administrative policy.

344.3. To awaken proper interest in education; to encourage the schools and colleges to attain higher standards and greater efficiency; to determine the number of schools and colleges that may receive financial support from this department; and to declare their classification and standards, and supporting territory of each.

344.4. To prepare an annual report of (1) the activities and finances of each educational institution, (2) a statement of the proposed activities and expenditures for the ensuing year of each school or college, and (3) of the grants proposed to be allotted to each institution, and submit the same to the General Board at its annual meeting for approval.

344.5. To receive such funds as may be contributed to it for educational purposes through gifts and donations, or through the General Budget funds of the church, and shall annually appropriate to each educational institution such an amount as the department may determine for the purpose of assisting such institutions to meet their current operating expenses.

The department shall also have power to administer any and all other funds, gifts, donations, or bequests in accordance with policy adopted by the General Board.

344.6. To make such recommendations to the management of each educational institution as in its judgment will serve to increase its efficiency.

344.7. To determine, and advise at least quadren-

nially, the minimum requirements to be maintained for admission, for graduation, for promotion to baccalaureate or other degrees in the educational institutions recognized by the Church of the Nazarene. The requirements thus established shall provide in all cases for the historical, literary, practical, and devotional study of the Bible.

344.8. To give encouragement to all schools under the supervision of the Church of the Nazarene to promote courses in moral education with instruction in the holiness ethic and life-style.

344.9. To be responsible for setting standards for ministerial education and training by arranging courses of study for local preachers, licensed ministers, licensed deaconesses, song evangelists, ministers of music, and directors of Christian education in conjunction with the Board of General Superintendents. The department shall also develop programs of continuing education for ministers in active service. [317.12, 420-22.2]

344.10. To supervise examinations and the work of the boards of ministerial studies in general, including the preparation, subject to the approval of the Board of General Superintendents and the General Board, of an official *Handbook on the Ministry*, such handbook to be the operating manual in the preparation of candidates for the various forms of ministry; in addition, to prepare ancillary study materials for the use of candidates.

344.11. To provide guidance in matters relating to multiple-staff ministries in local churches, including the training and availability of personnel. [181-81.5]

344.12. To provide opportunities for in-service training for all who are engaged in ministry, with a

view to the enrichment afforded through understanding various roles of ministry, administrative procedures, methods, and concepts.

**344.13.** To keep before the total church the validity of the call of God to Christian vocation to accomplish the varied ministries: pastors, ministers of Christian education, evangelists, song evangelists, chaplains, and deaconesses.

**344.14.** To give careful study and recommendation for the training programs for ministry provided in the educational institutions of the Church of the Nazarene. [420.1]

**344.15.** To be the agency through which affairs shall be channeled relating to the certification and ministry of military and institutional chaplains.

**344.16.** To serve as an interdepartmental service organization for all agencies of the general church which develop training courses for use in the local church.

**344.17.** To be responsible (1) for approval and publication of all courses in the area of leadership education; (2) for such other elective courses as may be assigned to it by any of the established departments or agencies of the church; (3) for initiating such training courses as are needed by the local church or other groups which are not clearly within the jurisdiction of other agencies of the general church.

**344.18.** To promote the work of Christian Service Training throughout the church and its entire membership; for providing courses of study, texts, and teacher guides for the same, and for issuing certificates of progress; for arranging for local classes, correspondence work, and area and district schools.

**344.19.** To employ a director who shall guide the

work of Christian Service Training as outlined in 344.16-44.18.

345. *Advisory Committees*: (1) An Advisory Committee on Education for the Ministry to work with the department on all matters pertaining to the various courses of study shall be appointed quadrennially by the Board of General Superintendents, and shall meet annually or upon call by the executive director; (2) There shall be an advisory committee on CST composed of the executive directors of all agencies of the general church which develop training courses for use in the local church. This committee shall meet annually or upon call by the executive director.

346. The educational institutions now recognized as under the auspices of this department of the General Board are:

1. Bethany Nazarene College, South Central Zone [691]
2. British Isles Nazarene College
3. Canadian Nazarene College, Canadian Zone [685]
4. Eastern Nazarene College, Eastern Zone [688]
5. Mid-America Nazarene College, North Central Zone [689]
6. Mount Vernon Nazarene College, East Central Zone [687]
7. Nazarene Bible College
8. Nazarene Theological Seminary
9. Northwest Nazarene College, Northwest Zone [690]
10. Olivet Nazarene College, Central Zone [686]
11. Point Loma College, Southwest Zone [693]
12. Trevecca Nazarene College, Southeast Zone [692]

347. There shall be a General Council of Education composed of one representative from each recognized institution; ordinarily the representative would be the president or someone designated by him. It shall meet annually at the time of the General Board meeting, with at least one of its meetings to be held jointly with the Department of Education and the Ministry at the latter's discretion. Its function shall be to encourage stronger relationship with each other and with the denomination through greater understanding and cooperation.

348. Each educational institution shall prepare an annual detailed report of its activities during the past year, including a financial report duly audited by a public accountant, and a detailed statement of its proposed activities and expenditures together with a statement of probable income, as its budget for the ensuing year, and shall forward this report to the Department of Education and the Ministry.

348.1. No educational institution shall employ or retain permanently in its employment any faculty member who is not in full accord with the doctrine of, and in the experience of, entire sanctification, and who is not in full agreement and sympathy with the Bible doctrines and usages held by the Church of the Nazarene as set forth in the Church Constitution and the Manual of government of said church.

348.2. No educational institution of the Church of the Nazarene shall hereafter be established or receive support from the funds of the department unless its plans and organization have first been submitted to the Department of Education and the Ministry for approval; and no institution shall continue to receive regular support unless its educational standards, plan

of organization, and financial methods are approved by the Department of Education and the Ministry. [§02.5]

349. The Department of Education and the Ministry may recommend to the General Board and to the Board of General Superintendents, and to the trustees of the schools affected thereby, that two or more schools be merged or otherwise disposed of, whenever in its judgment the highest educational interests of the denomination will be conserved by so doing.

#### THE DEPARTMENT OF EVANGELISM

351. The duties of the Department of Evangelism [335.5] shall be:

351.1. To promote an aggressive evangelism throughout the Church of the Nazarene and to cooperate in every way with the general superintendents, the district superintendents, the pastors, and the evangelists in the work of evangelism; to inspire members of our local churches to zeal in soul winning through intercessory prayer, personal evangelism, and the distribution of gospel literature.

351.2. To conduct studies, devise plans and programs for the local church as related to concepts of growth and the pastoral ministry.

351.3. To prepare an annual detailed report of its activities for the past year including a financial report, together with a more or less detailed statement of its proposed activities and expenditures as its budget for the ensuing year, and submit the same to the General Board at its annual meeting for approval; no budget, however, shall be in excess of the goal set by the General Assembly for this division of work.

351.4. To perform all other duties relative to evangelism as may be assigned by the General Board.

#### THE DEPARTMENT OF HOME MISSIONS

352. The duties and policies of the Department of Home Missions [335.5] shall be:

352.1. To perform the work of Christianity more generally by supporting, maintaining, and promoting all phases of church work and missionary activity conducted by the Church of the Nazarene in the British Isles, Canada, and the United States of America, including work among ethnic minority groups, with all such activities subject to the approval of the General Board and the Board of General Superintendents. [317.1-17.3]

352.2. To encourage local churches and district leaders to actively promote the organization of churches, to devise study materials and other helps to assist them, and to receive official reports of new church organizations on forms provided by the department.

352.3. To provide guidelines for suitable church buildings for district leaders and local congregations of the Church of the Nazarene, subject to the approval of the General Board and the Board of General Superintendents. [235.1, 317.3]

352.4. To give careful study to guidelines for proposed church locations and building sites, and to make such recommendations therein as it may deem advisable when requested by district or general leaders; to furnish such assistance in devising building plans, and to supply such architectural service as its facilities and means may provide. [235.1]

352.5. To devise means by which funds may be

secured, held, and managed for its purpose; to make loans from its loan funds under regulations approved by the General Board; and to assist districts and local churches with such guidelines relating to securing mortgage loans as it may deem appropriate. [235]

352.6. To assist local churches to incorporate and establish valid titles to church property. [102-3, 235.1-35.5]

352.7. To prepare an annual detailed report of its activities for the past year including a financial report, together with a more or less detailed statement of its proposed activities and expenditures as its budget for the ensuing year, and submit the same to the General Board at its annual meeting for approval; no budget, however, shall be in excess of the goal set by the General Assembly.

353. Policies of the Department of Home Missions regarding district development shall include:

353.1. Districts administratively related to the Department of Home Missions in the Church of the Nazarene shall be developed according to the four-stage plan described in 600. A stated objective of the Department of Home Missions shall be to increase the decision-making involvement by nationals so that regular districts may emerge as quickly as possible. The executive director of the Department of Home Missions and the general superintendent in jurisdiction, in consultation with the District Advisory Board, may determine when sufficient support level in finance and government shall have been achieved so that change in district designation may be made. At all levels of development, the district will maintain a relationship to the Department of Home Missions in matters pertaining to financial subsidy for buildings,

institutions, and such personnel as may be requested or required.

**353.2.** The district superintendent of the pioneer district and the national-mission district shall be appointed by the Board of General Superintendents and approved by the Department of Home Missions.

**353.3.** The district superintendent of the mission district shall be nominated by the Board of General Superintendents and elected by vote of the District Assembly. In case the nomination be rejected by the vote of the District Assembly, the general superintendent presiding shall continue submitting nominations until there is an election.

**353.4.** An assembly district having home missionary needs it is unable to supply with its own resources may be eligible to consideration for assistance from the Department of Home Missions.

**353.5.** All requests for grants of home mission funds shall be accompanied by reasons therefor, and shall be filed in writing with the executive director of the Department of Home Missions. Such requests shall be submitted to the Board of General Superintendents for review. No appropriation shall be made by the Department of Home Missions without the written approval of the Board of General Superintendents.

**353.6.** The requests for, and distribution of home missionary funds, shall be made through the District Advisory Board of the assembly district in which the work is being conducted.

#### THE DEPARTMENT OF PENSIONS AND BENEVOLENCE

**355.** The duties of the Department of Pensions and Benevolence [335.5] shall be:

**355.1.** To perform the work of providing for the

temporal support of disabled ministers, aged ministers and their needy dependents, and the widows and orphans of ministers of the Church of the Nazarene, subject to the approval of the General Board and the Board of General Superintendents. [317.3]

355.2. To devise means by which funds may be secured, held, and managed for its purposes, to make appropriations from its funds for the aid of needy and disabled ministers and the needy and disabled members of the ministers' families, under regulations approved by the General Board; to carry out such plans for funds, relief, support, and pensions as may be authorized by the General Assembly or by the General Board; to control, manage, and supervise such old people's homes as may be established or approved by the General Assembly or by the General Board. [205.7, 222.6, 403.10, 404.10, 407.4]

355.3. To prepare an annual detailed report of its activities for the past year including a financial report, together with a more or less detailed statement of the proposed activities and expenditures as its budget for the ensuing year, and submit the same to the General Board at its annual meeting for approval; no budget, however, shall be in excess of the goal set by the General Assembly for this department.

#### THE DEPARTMENT OF PUBLICATION

357. The duties of the Department of Publication [335.5] shall be:

357.1. To perform the work of spreading Christianity, by the publication, sale, and distribution of moral and religious literature, subject to the approval of the General Board and the Board of General Superintendents. [317.3]

357.2. To have the general supervision and management of all publications affecting the interests of the Church of the Nazarene, to conduct a systematic distribution of Bibles, books, tracts, and gospel literature; and to provide such literature and other materials as may be deemed necessary for the interests of the denomination, except as otherwise authorized in 358. [237]

357.3. To provide the church with an attractive and varied line of tracts and to promote the work of tract distribution.

Policy regarding types of tracts, format, number of items to be carried, and plans for programs of distribution shall be supervised by a committee including one member from the Nazarene Publishing House (chairman ex officio) and one member each from the staffs of the Departments of Home Missions, Evangelism, World Mission; Children's, Youth, and Adult Ministries; Stewardship, and Christian Service Training.

Tracts shall be published by the Nazarene Publishing House under its own imprint or under one of its trade imprints. Establishment of tract prices shall rest with the Nazarene Publishing House. [358]

357.4. To prepare an annual detailed report of its activities for the past year including a financial report, together with a more or less detailed statement of its proposed activities and expenditures as its budget for the ensuing year, and submit the same to the General Board at its annual meeting for approval; no budget, however, shall be in excess of the goal set by the General Assembly for this department. Upon the basis of such reports and statements, the Department of Publication shall determine and reserve that

portion of the net profits of the Nazarene Publishing House for the preceding year necessary to meet its financial obligations and finance its business of the current year. The entire balance of the net profits, if any, shall be applied to the benevolent work of the Church of the Nazarene as directed by the General Assembly.

357.5. To submit to the General Board one or more nominations from which a manager of the Nazarene Publishing House shall be elected according to 333.18.

358. There shall be a Nazarene Book Committee composed of seven members who are available for regular meetings in Kansas City, one of whom shall be the executive director of the Department of Publication, and one of whom shall be the executive director of the International Publications Board, to serve until the final adjournment of the next General Assembly and until their successors are elected and qualified. The members of this committee shall be nominated by the Board of General Superintendents and elected by the General Board. Any vacancy occurring during the quadrennium shall be filled in similar manner at the General Board meeting following the occurrence of the vacancy. The committee shall be amenable to the General Board and shall be related organizationally to the Department of Publication to which it shall make an annual report and submit its program for endorsement and budget.

358.1. The Book Committee shall plan and coordinate the book, tape, and/or videotape program of the Nazarene Publishing House.

358.2. No book or taped book, except music, shall be published or produced with the sanction of the Church of the Nazarene or the Nazarene Publishing

House or any of its trade names, unless approved in writing by a majority of the members of the Book Committee, and by them recommended for publication or production; and no book or taped book, other than music, from other sources may be advertised in any of our periodicals unless such advertisement has been authorized by the Book Committee.

**358.3.** There shall be an advisory committee to the Book Committee composed of a general superintendent and the executive officers of all departments, committees, or commissions which initiate and are responsible for the publication of books or tracts. The Book Committee may also invite to this advisory group other persons who, because of specialization in biblical, theological, or other fields, may give valuable counsel in planning the permanent literature of the church. This committee shall meet biennially or as the Book Committee shall order.

**358.4.** Where books are being printed for use on any of our mission fields, the following policy shall apply: Translations of books already approved by the Book Committee may be printed without further approval; any new manuscript planned for publication shall be first approved by a field committee of not fewer than three members who shall then submit it to the International Publications Board for final approval by the Book Committee.

**359.** There shall be a permanent Music Committee. It shall be composed of five members who are nominated by the Department of Publication and elected by the General Board. The committee shall be amenable to the General Board and shall be related organizationally to the Department of Publication, to which it shall make annual report, and submit its programs for endorsement and budget.

**360.** The editor of the *Herald of Holiness* shall perform such duties as generally belong to the editorial office, and in such a manner as the interests of the Church of the Nazarene may require, and in harmony with the editorial policy agreed upon between the editor and the Department of Publication. In matters of denominational polity and doctrine he shall be governed by the recommendations of the Board of General Superintendents.

He shall be amenable to the Board of General Superintendents and the General Board. [317.4, 333.19]

**362.** The manager of the Nazarene Publishing House, elected according to 333.18, shall conduct the business of the Nazarene Publishing House in agreement with the bylaws of the General Board and the policies adopted by the Department of Publication and the Board of General Superintendents.

#### THE DEPARTMENT OF STEWARDSHIP

**363.** The duties of the Department of Stewardship [335.5] shall be:

**363.1.** To promote stewardship of time, talent, and resources throughout the Church of the Nazarene and to cooperate in every way with the general superintendents, the district superintendents, the pastors, and the evangelists in inspiring members of our churches to total stewardship.

**363.2.** To promote and assist in the raising of the General Budget.

**363.3.** To have charge of stewardship publicity.

**363.4.** To promote financial campaigns and provide inspirational speakers.

**363.5.** To arrange stewardship campaigns for the purpose of Christian stewardship.

**363.6.** To prepare promotional and stewardship literature for adults, youth, and children.

**363.7.** To cooperate with the several departments of the General Board in promoting stewardship.

**363.8.** To serve the church by providing information and assistance to its members in estate planning by promoting and receiving various types of deferred and special gifts such as (1) charitable remainder unitrusts, (2) charitable remainder annuity trusts, (3) pooled income fund trust gifts, (4) charitable gift annuities, (5) bequests, (6) life insurance gifts, (7) gifts of personal residences and farms with retained life estate, (8) gifts of all types of real property, (9) short-term charitable income trusts, and (10) any other special gifts, all in compliance with state and federal regulations pertaining to such special gifts and bequests.

**363.9.** To assure that all deferred gifts and bequests received by the department shall be administered by the Finance Committee and Investment Committee of the General Board in conformity with the financial policy of the General Board.

**363.10.** To employ an executive consultant to administer the work related to deferred life income gifts and bequests.

**364.** The executive consultant shall be nominated by the Department of Stewardship in consultation with the Board of General Superintendents and elected by the General Board. As many associate consultants as may be necessary to serve the Nazarene constituency may be elected by the department in consultation with the Board of General Superintendents.

364.1. The executive consultant shall be amenable to the executive director of the Department of Stewardship and the Board of General Superintendents.

364.2. The executive consultant shall report annually to the General Board through the Department of Stewardship.

365. There shall be a General Stewardship Council composed of the executive directors of each of the agencies of the General Board and the executive director of the General Nazarene World Missionary Society, the manager of the Nazarene Publishing House, the editor of the *Herald of Holiness*, the executive consultant of Life Income Gifts and Bequests, the director of Nazarene News, the General Secretary, the General Treasurer, and the three members-at-large residing within convenient travel distance of Kansas City, Mo., elected by the General Board. [37-37.4, 147, 333.13]

#### THE DEPARTMENT OF WORLD MISSION

366. The duties of the Department of World Mission [335.5] shall be:

366.1. To correlate and sustain the ministries of the Church of the Nazarene in extending the gospel of Christ through initiating, supporting, and promoting mission action and evangelism in areas of the work so assigned.

366.2. To supervise and administer the work of organizing and supporting churches, districts, dispensaries, hospitals, mission schools, and such other compassionate ministries as may be deemed advisable in the context of a total evangelistic ministry, recognizing that those engaged in the compassionate

ministries are also a part of the total evangelistic program. The Department of World Mission is to provide necessary building, equipment, and personnel for the same while encouraging maximum local leadership and financing; and to do whatever else may be proper and necessary for the welfare and progress of the world mission of the church, subject to the approval of the General Board and the Board of General Superintendents. [317.1-17.3]

**366.3.** To prepare an annual detailed report of its activities for the past year including a financial report, together with a more or less detailed statement of its proposed activities and expenditures as its budget for the ensuing year, and submit the same to the General Board at its annual meeting for approval; no budget, however, shall be in excess of the goal set by the General Assembly for this department.

**366.4.** To approve or disapprove nominations for membership on the General Council of the Nazarene World Missionary Society. [383, 811.3]

**367.** World mission territory shall consist of those countries considered approved by the General Board for missionary work. [317.2]

**367.1.** District boundaries within a world mission territory shall be determined by the Board of General Superintendents upon recommendation of the general superintendent having jurisdiction and the executive director of the Department of World Mission in consultation with the mission council executive committee and District Assembly or Assemblies. [317.12]

**368.** Missionaries to world mission territory, both lay and ministerial, shall be appointed and commissioned by the General Board from nominations made by the Department of World Mission, provided all

such nominations shall have first been duly approved in writing by the Board of General Superintendents. [317.1]

368.1. All lay missionaries appointed and commissioned by the General Board shall, by virtue thereof, be members of the District Assembly of their choice. [201]

369. The General Nazarene World Missionary Society shall be an auxiliary of the Department of World Mission and subject to its direction. [383]

370. The International Publications Board shall be administratively related to the Department of World Mission and function with Nazarene Publishing House to provide helps necessary for Nazarene mission fields around the world. [375]

371. A Missionary Study Committee shall be provided whose duty it shall be to authorize, supervise, and correlate all missionary study programs and material for the Church of the Nazarene, including study courses, missionary themes, topics and lines of study, to be used in whole or in part by any department or auxiliary. In case any phase of this study literature is not found adaptable to any department, that department may provide such additional study material as shall be approved by the committee.

371.1. The committee shall be composed of one member elected by each of the following departments of the General Board: World Mission; Home Missions; Publication; Adult, Youth, and Children's Ministries. The executive director of the Nazarene World Missionary Society and the executive director of the International Publications Board shall be members *ex officio* of the committee.

371.2. There shall also be a Junior Missionary Reading Committee composed of the executive director of the NWMS; the book editor of the Nazarene Publishing House; age-group representatives from, and named by, the Division of Christian Life; a representative from the Department of World Mission; and a representative from the International Publications Board, the last two to be named by the Department of World Mission. This committee shall be amenable to the Missionary Study Committee.

372. A publication known as the *Statement of Policy* of the Department of World Mission shall regulate various aspects and programs of the Department of World Mission.

372.1. The *Statement of Policy* of the Department of World Mission shall be adopted by the General Board and shall be subject to amendment from time to time by the General Board.

372.2. National local churches and districts may be organized in harmony with the *Statement of Policy* of the Department of World Mission relating to the operation of the national church and shall be subject to the provisions and requirements of said policy.

372.3. Both national churches and licensed and ordained national ministers shall be subject to the provisions and requirements of the *Statement of Policy* of the Department of World Mission relating to the operation of the national church until the districts of which they are members shall have been organized into a regular assembly district.

373. A mission district operating under provisions of the *Statement of Policy* of the Department of World Mission may become a regular assembly district at such time as sufficient supportive level in government

and membership shall have been achieved, and the district is fully self-supporting. The executive director of the Department of World Mission and the general superintendent in jurisdiction, in consultation with the mission council or executive committee and the District Advisory Board, may determine such a status in agreement with the church constitution and the *Manual* of the Church of the Nazarene, within legal provisions of the country involved, and with the approval of the General Board and the Board of General Superintendents. Such a district will maintain a relationship to the Department of World Mission in matters pertaining to financial subsidy for buildings, institutions, and such personnel as may be requested or required. An assembly district so constituted and local churches of this district shall thereafter in all respects be subject to and governed by the provisions of the church constitution and the *Manual*.

## N. General Church Boards

### THE BOARD OF PENSIONS

374. The Board of Pensions for the Church of the Nazarene, a Missouri corporation, shall have a Board of Directors composed of nine members, nominated by the Board of General Superintendents and elected by the General Board. A majority of the membership shall be laymen. There shall also be at least one pastor and one district superintendent. Three of the board members shall be members of the Department of Pensions of the General Board. Nominees are to be selected on the basis of special skills and represent various geographical areas.

374.1. The Board of Pensions shall function under

the bylaws as approved by the General Board and shall report through the Department of Pensions and Benevolence to the General Board.

### THE INTERNATIONAL PUBLICATIONS BOARD

375. There shall be an International Publications Board to coordinate and promote the preparation of printed publications, music, textbooks for educational institutions, and any other helps necessary for a distinctive church growth in Nazarene mission fields around the world. [358]

375.1. The International Publications Board shall operate administratively under the Department of World Mission and functionally under the Department of Publication. The membership of the International Publications Board shall include the executive director of the Department of World Mission, executive director of the Department of Publication, and three additional members elected by the Department of World Mission, one of whom shall be a member of the Department of World Mission.

375.2. The executive director of the International Publications Board shall be elected by the Department of World Mission following the General Assembly, upon nomination by the International Publications Board and the Board of General Superintendents, and shall serve for the quadrennium and until his successor has been duly elected and qualified.

375.3. The members of the International Publications Board shall meet annually preceding the annual meeting of the Department of World Mission, at which time the executive director and the Board will prepare an annual budget to submit to the Depart-

ment of World Mission. The executive director of the Department of World Mission and the executive director of the Department of Publication will constitute an executive committee which will meet quarterly with the executive director of the International Publications Board for update and review.

375.4. Any vacancy in the International Publications Board shall be filled by the Department of World Mission through their regular procedure.

375.5. The International Publications Board shall provide, through its executive director, resource people who shall be available to meet with administrative, Bible school, and seminary boards, with school directors and staff to give guidance in matters of curriculum and curriculum development and assistance in the selection and development of textbooks.

#### THE NAZARENE PUBLISHING HOUSE BOARD

376. The Nazarene Publishing House, a corporation of Kansas City, Mo., shall have a board of directors composed of seven members; one shall be a General Board member of the Department of Publication, and one shall be the executive director of the Department of Publication, and three shall have special professional qualifications, nominated by the Board of General Superintendents and elected by the General Board, who shall hold office until the final adjournment of the next General Assembly and until their successors are elected and qualified. Vacancies therein shall be filled by the Board of General Superintendents from nominations made by the remaining members. [317.8]

376.1. The Board of Directors shall be responsible

to the Department of Publication and through them to the General Board.

**376.2.** The Board of Directors of the Nazarene Publishing House shall elect a chairman from among its members.

**376.3.** The Nazarene Publishing House Board shall meet semiannually, or as needed, with the manager of the Nazarene Publishing House giving financial, production, and progress reports.

**376.4.** The manager of the Nazarene Publishing House shall be elected in accordance with 333.18, and shall be responsible to the executive director of the Department of Publication.

**376.5.** The Board of Directors of the Nazarene Publishing House shall function as an advisory group to the manager of the Nazarene Publishing House in the efficient operation of the House as the Church of the Nazarene printing and merchandising agency. [376-76.10]

**376.6.** The capital expenditures and the annual budget shall be approved by the Department of Publication and the General Board.

**376.7.** The profits from the operation of the Nazarene Publishing House shall be used as directed by the Department of Publication and the General Board, but always retaining a cash reserve equivalent to three months operational expense.

**376.8.** The Nazarene Publishing House is the printing and merchandising arm of the church and does not have the responsibility of determining printing priorities or what shall be printed. This shall be the duty of the Department of Publication, in conjunction with other agencies.

**376.9.** When an agency's program printing needs

are not financially feasible, the manager of the Nazarene Publishing House will alert the executive director of the Department of Publication, and they jointly with the respective executive and general superintendent advisor shall decide on the course of action to be taken.

**378.10.** The operation of the Nazarene Publishing House is to be self-supporting; and if for any reason this is not the case, then it will be the responsibility of the Department of Publication jointly with the Board of General Superintendents and General Board to decide on the appropriate action.

## O. General Committees and Agencies

### THE BOOK COMMITTEE

See Paragraph 358.

### THE BOUNDARIES COMMITTEE

**378.** Following the General Assembly, the Board of General Superintendents shall appoint a Committee on Boundaries of seven members to serve for the ensuing quadrennium whose duties shall be:

**378.1.** To work in cooperation with any district committees or commissions on division or boundary adjustments prior to vote of the District Assemblies involved. The written approval of the Board of General Superintendents shall be required before such votes are taken by the District Assemblies.

**378.2.** To study the needs for any divisions or boundary adjustments which may be brought to its attention, and upon the approval of the Board of General Superintendents, make recommendations to the dis-

district involved for consideration. When such recommendation involves more than one district, each District Assembly shall have opportunity to consider and act on the recommendation. If any or all the District Assemblies involved fail to act, or if the actions of the several District Assemblies are in disagreement, the recommendation shall be submitted to the next General Assembly for action.

### THE CHRISTIAN ACTION COMMITTEE

**379.** Following the General Assembly, the Board of General Superintendents shall appoint a secretary of Christian Action and three members who reside within convenient travel distance of Kansas City, Mo., one of whom shall be the General Secretary, who shall report the committee's work to the General Board.

The duties of the Christian Action Committee shall be:

**379.1.** To provide for our people constructive information on such matters as alcohol, tobacco, narcotics, and gambling.

**379.2.** To emphasize the sanctity of marriage and the sacredness of the Christian home and to point out the problems and evils of divorce.

**379.3.** To lend encouragement to our people who are serving in places of leadership in temperance organizations and in similar organizations working for civic righteousness.

**379.4.** To alert our people regarding Sabbath observance, oath-bound secret orders, the theater, including the movies, worldliness of other types, and such related subjects as may need emphasis.

### THE GENERAL CHURCH PROPERTIES COMMITTEE

**380.** There shall be a General Church Properties Committee appointed by the Board of General Superintendents to provide the general oversight of the general church properties. This committee shall be convened at the call of the Board of General Superintendents.

### THE MUSIC COMMITTEE

See Paragraph 359.

### P. The General Nazarene Youth International

**382.** The General Nazarene Youth International shall be composed of all district and local Nazarene Youth International units.

It shall be governed by the constitution of the General Nazarene Youth International approved by the General Assembly. [810]

**382.1.** The General Nazarene Youth International shall be represented on the General Board of the Church of the Nazarene by one member elected by the General Assembly from nominations made by the General Council of the General Nazarene Youth International. [329.4]

**382.2.** There shall be a General Quadrennial Convention, which shall meet at a time fixed by the General Council in consultation with the Board of General Superintendents. The General Quadrennial Convention shall be composed of such members as are designated in 810.3.

### **Q. The General Council of the General Nazarene World Missionary Society**

**383.** The General Council of the General Nazarene World Missionary Society shall be composed of the general president, executive director, and of that number of members prescribed by the constitution of the General Nazarene World Missionary Society and elected in accordance therewith. [366.4, 811.3]

**383.1.** The General Council shall be governed by the constitution of the General Nazarene World Missionary Society. This organization shall be auxiliary to the Department of World Mission. [369, 811.3]

**383.2.** The General Council shall elect by a two-thirds vote by ballot an executive director, who shall be an ex officio member of the council and of the General Assembly. [301]

**383.3.** The General Nazarene World Missionary Society shall be represented on the General Board by one member elected thereto by the General Assembly from nominations made by the General Council of the General Nazarene World Missionary Society. [330.4]

**383.4.** There shall be a quadrennial convention held under the direction of the General Council of the General Nazarene World Missionary Society at the same time as, or immediately preceding, the regular meeting of the General Assembly. This convention shall elect the General Council of the General Nazarene World Missionary Society in harmony with the constitution. The convention shall elect a general president, who shall be a member ex officio of the General Council of the General Nazarene World Missionary Society. [301, 366.4, 811.3]

## R. The Executive Board in Canada

384. The Executive Board in Canada, incorporated in 1946 under the title "The Executive Board of the Church of the Nazarene, Dominion of Canada," shall be recognized as the lawful authority of the Church of the Nazarene in Canada in all matters relative to the acquiring, holding, selling, and conveying of property within the Dominion, as outlined in the Articles of Incorporation.

The Executive Board shall be composed of the duly elected district superintendents of the assembly districts of the Church of the Nazarene in Canada. Minutes of the annual meetings of the Executive Board shall be read and approved by the General Board.

## S. British Isles Executive Council

385. There may be set up in Britain a permanent organization to be known as the British Isles Executive Council; such council to be composed of the district superintendents and the Advisory Boards of the Church of the Nazarene in the British Isles.

Subject to the approval of the Board of General Superintendents, this council is authorized to transact business relative to the Church of the Nazarene for which no other provision is made in the *Manual*.

## T. Nazarene Bible College Board of Trustees

386. The board of trustees of Nazarene Bible College shall consist of the president of the college and two members from each of the eight zones within the continental United States. Of these members, there

shall be one district superintendent elected from each zone, and eight other members composed of four laymen and four pastors.

Members of the board shall be elected by ballot by the General Assembly for a term of four years, or until their successors are elected and qualified. The nominating committee of each General Assembly shall nominate twice the number of persons to be elected by the General Assembly.

No officer, teacher, or employee of any Nazarene educational institution shall be eligible for election to the board of trustees of the Nazarene Bible College.

Any vacancy occurring in the board shall be filled by the Board of General Superintendents. [901.6, 902.15]

#### **U. Nazarene Theological Seminary Board of Trustees**

387. The board of trustees of the Nazarene Theological Seminary shall be composed of the president of the seminary, who shall be *ex officio*; one district superintendent from each of the nine zones in North America; and six members-at-large, three of whom shall be pastors and three of whom shall be laymen. Members of the board of trustees shall be elected by ballot by the General Assembly for a term of four years or until their successors are elected and qualified. The nominating committee of the General Assembly shall nominate twice the number of persons to be elected by the General Assembly. No officer, teacher, or employee of any Nazarene educational institution shall be eligible for election to the board of trustees of the Nazarene Theological Seminary. [901.5, 902.15]

### V. The Fiscal Year

388. The fiscal year for all general interests of the Church of the Nazarene shall end at a time specified in the bylaws of the General Board.





PART V

**Ministry and  
Christian Service**

**THE MINISTER AND THE MINISTRY**

**THE EVANGELIST**

**THE MINISTER OF CHRISTIAN EDUCATION**

**THE SONG EVANGELIST**

**THE MINISTER OF MUSIC**

**THE DEACONESS**

## CHAPTER I

### THE MINISTER AND THE MINISTRY

#### A. Qualifications and Call of the Minister

400. While we recognize and insist that all believers have committed unto them a dispensation of the gospel which they are to minister unto all men, we also recognize and hold that the Head of the Church calls some to the more official and public work of the ministry.

As our Lord called unto Him whom He would, and chose and ordained His 12 apostles "that they should be with him, and that he might send them forth to preach," so He still calls and sends forth messengers of the gospel. The church, illuminated by the Holy Spirit, will recognize the Lord's call.

When the church discovers this divine call, the proper steps should be taken for its recognition and endorsement, and all suitable help should be given to open the way for the candidate to enter the ministry.

401. The perpetuity and the efficiency of the Church of the Nazarene depend largely upon the spiritual qualifications, the character, and the manner of life of its ministers.

401.1. The minister of Christ is to be in all things a pattern to the flock—in punctuality, discretion, diligence, earnestness. "By pureness, by knowledge, by longsuffering, by kindness, by the Holy Ghost, by love unfeigned, by the word of truth, by the power of God, by the armour of righteousness on the right hand and on the left" (2 Corinthians 6:6-7).

401.2. The minister of the gospel in the Church of the Nazarene must know that he has peace with God,

through our Lord Jesus Christ, and that he is sanctified wholly by the baptism with the Holy Spirit. He must have a deep sense of the fact that souls for whom Christ died are perishing, and that he is called of God to proclaim to them the glad tidings of salvation.

401.3. The minister must likewise have a deep sense of the necessity of believers going on unto perfection and developing the Christian graces in practical living, that their "love may abound yet more and more in knowledge and in all judgment." He must have a strong appreciation of both salvation and Christian ethics.

401.4. The minister must have gifts, as well as grace, for the work. He will have a thirst for knowledge, especially of the Word of God; sound judgment and good understanding; clear views concerning the plan of redemption and salvation as revealed in the Scriptures. Saints will be edified and sinners converted through his ministry. He must be an example in prayer.

401.5. Persons who obtain divorce under the civil law where the scriptural ground for divorce, namely, adultery, does not exist and who subsequently remarry are ineligible for the office of the ministry of the Church of the Nazarene. [320, 403, 404.1, 405]

401.6. It shall be the duty of every minister of the Church of the Nazarene to hold in trust and confidence any communication of a confidential nature given him by a counselee of the congregation while he is acting in his professional character as a licensed or ordained minister of the Church of the Nazarene. The public dissemination of such communication without the express written consent of the declarant is expressly condemned. Any Nazarene minister who vio-

lates the above-recited duty subjects himself to the disciplinary sanctions set forth in Part VII, Subsection III of this *Manual*.

## B. The Local Preacher

402. Any member of the Church of the Nazarene who feels called of God to preach and to conduct special meetings in the interest of salvation may be licensed as a local preacher for one year by the church board of a local church having an elder as pastor, upon the pastor's recommendation; or by the church board of a local church not having an elder as pastor, if the granting of license is recommended by the pastor and approved by the district superintendent. The candidate must first be examined as to his personal experience of salvation, his knowledge of the doctrines of the Bible, and the order of the church; he must also demonstrate that his call is evidenced by grace, gifts, and usefulness. A local preacher shall make a report to the local church at its annual church meeting. [112.7, 136.11, 208.8]

402.1. The church board shall issue to each local preacher a license signed by the pastor and the secretary of the church board.

402.2. The license of a local preacher may be renewed by the church board of a local church having an elder as pastor, upon the recommendation of the pastor, or by the church board of a local church not having an elder as pastor, provided that this renewal of license is recommended by the pastor and approved by the district superintendent. [136.11, 208.8]

402.3. Local preachers shall pursue the course of study for ministers under the direction of the District Board of Ministerial Studies. Local license cannot be

renewed after two years without the written approval of the district superintendent if the local preacher has not completed at least two subjects in the course of study.

**402.4.** A local preacher, having served in that relation for at least one full year, and having passed the complete first-year course of study for ministers, or if a student in a Nazarene college or seminary, having completed one-fourth of the units prescribed in the college or college-seminary program, or one-third of the Nazarene Bible College ministerial curriculum, may be recommended by the church board to the District Assembly for minister's license; but, if not received, he shall sustain his former relation. [136.13, 205.7, 403, 420]

**402.5.** A local preacher who has been appointed as supply pastor must be approved by the Board of Orders and Relations if he continues his service after the District Assembly following his appointment. [209, 228.3]

### C. The Licensed Minister

**403.** When there are members of the Church of the Nazarene who feel called to the ministry, they may be licensed as ministers by the District Assembly and enrolled as members of the District Assembly, provided they (1) have held local preacher's license for one full year; (2) have passed the complete first-year course of study for ministers, or if enrolled in a Nazarene college or seminary, have completed one-fourth of the units prescribed in the college or college-seminary program, or one-third of the Bible college ministerial curriculum; (3) have been recommended for such work by the church board of the local church

of which they are members, to which recommendation shall be attached the *Application for Minister's License* carefully filled out; (4) have given evidence of grace, gifts, and usefulness; (5) have been carefully examined, under the direction of the District Assembly of the district within the bounds of which they hold their church membership, regarding their spiritual, intellectual, and other fitness for such work; (6) have promised to pursue immediately the course of study prescribed for licensed ministers and candidates for ordination; and (7) have had any disqualification, which may have been imposed by a District Assembly, removed by an explanation in writing by the district superintendent and the District Advisory Board of the district where the disqualification was imposed; and provided further that their marriage relationship does not render them ineligible [401.5] for the office of the ministry. [136.13, 206.7, 402.4]

403.1. Licensed ministers from other evangelical denominations, desiring to unite with the Church of the Nazarene, may be licensed as ministers by the District Assembly, provided they present the credentials issued to them by the denomination in which they formerly held their membership; and further provided that they (1) have passed a course of study equivalent at least to the course of study prescribed by the Church of the Nazarene for local preachers; (2) have been recommended by the church board of the local Church of the Nazarene of which they are members; (3) have given evidence of grace, gifts, and usefulness; (4) have been carefully examined under the direction of the District Assembly regarding their spiritual, intellectual, and other fitness for such work;

and (5) have promised to pursue immediately the course of study prescribed for licensed ministers and candidates for ordination. [203.5, 401.5]

**403.2.** A minister's license shall terminate with the close of the next District Assembly. It may be renewed by vote of the District Assembly, provided (1) that the candidate for renewal shall file with the District Assembly the *Application for Minister's License* carefully filled out; and provided (2) that the candidate shall have completed at least two subjects in the year's course of study required, not including subjects in the reading course; and provided (3) that he has been recommended for the renewal of license by the church board of the local church of which he is a member. In case, however, he shall not have passed the course of study required, his license may be renewed by the District Assembly only upon his submitting a written explanation for this failure. Such explanation shall be satisfactory to the Committee on Orders and Relations and approved by the general superintendent presiding. [136.14, 203.2]

**403.3.** To qualify for ordination, candidates must achieve graduation from the course of study within eight years from the granting of the first district license. Any exception, due to unusual circumstances, must be recommended to the District Assembly, including a specified time limit, by the Board of Orders and Relations and be subject to the approval of the general superintendent in jurisdiction.

A licensed minister who is disqualified from ordination by reason of age or failure to complete the course of study within the prescribed time limit may be granted renewal of minister's license upon recommendation of the District Advisory Board and the Board of Orders and Relations.

403.4. In the case of licensed ministers who are serving as pastors, the recommendation for the renewal of minister's license shall be made by the District Advisory Board rather than by the local church board. [222.11]

403.5. The general superintendent having jurisdiction shall issue to each licensed minister a minister's license signed by himself and the district secretary. [814.4]

403.6. Such licensed ministers shall be vested with authority to preach the Word; and, provided they pass annually the required studies of the course of study and are acting as pastors, they shall also be vested with authority to administer the sacraments of baptism and the Lord's Supper in their own congregations, and to officiate at marriages where the laws of the state do not prohibit. [33.5, 115, 115.3, 802, 803]

403.7. All licensed ministers shall hold their ministerial membership in the District Assembly of the district wherein their church membership is held, and shall report to this body annually. [120, 201, 203.1]

403.8. In case a licensed minister has united with the church membership or ministry of another denomination, his church membership and ministerial membership in the Church of the Nazarene shall, because of that fact, immediately cease, and the District Assembly shall cause to be entered into its minute record the following statement: "Removed from the membership and ministry of the Church of the Nazarene by uniting with another denomination." [107, 111.2]

403.9. In case a licensed minister shall, without the written approval of the District Advisory Board of the assembly district in which he holds his ministerial

membership or the written approval of the Board of General Superintendents, regularly conduct independent church activities which are not under the direction of the Church of the Nazarene, or be connected with the operating staff of an independent church or other religious group, he shall be subject to trial under the law dealing with the discipline of a minister. [404.7, 502]

403.10. The licensed minister shall always show due regard for the united advice of the district superintendent and the District Advisory Board. [118]

403.11. Any claim to participation by a licensed minister and/or his dependents in any plan or fund that the church may have now or hereafter for the assistance or support of its disabled or aged ministers shall be based only upon regular, full-time, active service rendered by the minister in the pastoral or evangelistic office or other recognized relation, under the sanction of the District Assembly. This rule shall exclude from such participation all those in part-time and occasional service. [404.10]

#### **D. The Ordained Minister**

404. We recognize but one order of official ministry—that of elder. This is a permanent order in the Church. The elder is to rule well in the Church, to preach the Word, to administer the sacraments of baptism and the Lord's Supper, and to solemnize matrimony, all in the name of and in subjection to Jesus Christ, the great Head of the Church. [33.5, 114, 115, 115.3, 404.9]

404.1. One who is called of God to this ministry, and who has fulfilled all the requirements of the church for the same, who has successfully completed

the full course of study prescribed for licensed ministers and candidates for ordination, who has been recommended for renewal of district license by the church board of the local church in which he holds his membership or by the District Advisory Board [403.2], and has been carefully considered and favorably reported by the Board of Orders and Relations of the District Assembly, may be elected to elder's orders by two-thirds vote of the District Assembly, provided he has been in the active ministry not less than two consecutive years either as a regularly established pastor or as a registered evangelist, and has spent the major portion of that time actively in the field, or has served four consecutive years full-time as associate or assistant pastor or one year as pastor and two consecutive years as full-time associate or assistant pastor or one who has served four years as a full-time teacher in the religion department of one of our Nazarene institutions of higher education; provided further, that any disqualification which may have been imposed by a District Assembly has been removed in writing by the district superintendent and the District Advisory Board of the district where the disqualification was imposed; and provided further that his marriage relationship does not render him ineligible [401.5] for ordination. No person shall be ordained after passing the sixtieth birthday. [136.14, 203.5, 320, 420]

**404.2.** The candidate thus elected shall be ordained by the laying on of the hands of the elders, and other religious exercises, under the direction of the presiding general superintendent. [307.3]

**404.3.** The general superintendent having jurisdiction shall issue to the person so ordained a certificate

of ordination signed by himself and the district secretary. [406.1, 814.1]

**404.4.** All elders shall hold church membership in some local church. [121]

**404.5.** All elders shall hold their ministerial membership in the District Assembly of the district wherein their church membership is held, to which body they shall report annually. Any elder who for two consecutive years does not report to his District Assembly either in person or by letter shall, if the District Assembly so elect, cease to be a member thereof. [29, 120, 201, 203.1, 407.3]

**404.6.** In case an ordained minister has united with the church membership or ministry of another denomination, his church membership and ministerial membership in the Church of the Nazarene shall, because of that fact, immediately cease, and the District Assembly shall cause to be entered into its minute record the following statement: "Removed from the membership and ministry of the Church of the Nazarene by uniting with another denomination." [107, 111.2]

**404.7.** No ordained minister shall regularly conduct independent church activities which are not under the direction of the Church of the Nazarene, or carry on independent missions or church activities, or be connected with the operating staff of an independent church or other religious group without the annual written approval of the District Advisory Board or the written approval of the Board of General Superintendents.

When the said activities are to be conducted on more than one district, or a district other than the district on which said minister holds his ministerial

membership, the written approval of the Board of General Superintendents must be obtained prior to the participation in said activities. The Board of General Superintendents shall notify the respective District Advisory Boards that a request for said approval is pending before their board.

Should an ordained minister fail to comply with these requirements, he may, on recommendation by a two-thirds vote of the entire membership of the Board of Orders and Relations and by action of the District Assembly, be dropped from the membership of the Church of the Nazarene.

The final determination as to whether any specific activity constitutes "an independent mission" or "unauthorized church activity" shall rest with the Board of General Superintendents.

404.8. The elder shall always show due regard for the united advice of the district superintendent and the District Advisory Board. [118]

404.9. An elder may organize a local church when authorized to do so by the district superintendent or the general superintendent having jurisdiction. Official reports are to be filed in the Department of Home Missions. [100, 208.1, 310]

404.10. Any claim to participation by an elder and/or his dependents in any plan or fund that the church may have now or hereafter for the assistance or support of its disabled or aged ministers shall be based only upon regular, full-time, active service rendered by the elder in the pastoral or evangelistic office or other recognized relation, under the sanction of the District Assembly. This rule shall exclude from such participation all those in part-time and occasional service. [355.2, 403.11]

### E. The Recognition of Elder's Orders

405. Elders from other evangelical denominations, desiring to unite with the Church of the Nazarene and presenting their ordination papers, may have their orders recognized by the District Assembly, after satisfactory examination as to personal experience and doctrine, provided that: (1) they be required to take an examination on the *Manual* and on the history of the Church of the Nazarene; (2) they shall file with the District Assembly the *Questionnaire for Ordained Ministers Desiring to Join the Church of the Nazarene*, carefully filled out; and (3) their marriage relationship shall be in accordance with that required for ordination in the Church of the Nazarene. [34-34.1, 203.5, 225, 401.5, 420]

405.1. The general superintendent having jurisdiction shall issue to the elder so recognized a certificate of recognition signed by himself and the district secretary. [404.3, 814.2]

405.2. When the orders of an elder from another church shall have been duly recognized, his credentials issued by said church shall be returned to him inscribed in writing or stamped across the face as follows:

Accredited by the \_\_\_\_\_ District  
Assembly of the Church of the Nazarene  
This \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 19\_\_\_\_,  
as the basis of the new credentials.  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_General Superintendent  
\_\_\_\_\_District Secretary

405.3. The elder so recognized shall have his name enrolled as a ministerial member of the District Assembly. [201, 203.1]

## F. The Transfer of Ministers

406. When an elder or a licensed minister desires to transfer to another district, transfer of ministerial membership may be issued by vote of the District Assembly, or by the District Advisory Board in the interim of assemblies, in which his ministerial membership is held. Such transfer of an elder or licensed minister may be received by the District Advisory Board in the interim before the District Assembly meets, granting to said elder or licensed minister full rights and privileges of membership on the district on which it is received, subject to final approval of the Board of Orders and Relations and the District Assembly. [203.6-3.7, 223, 814.13]

406.1. The transfer of a licensed minister shall be valid only when accompanied by a detailed record of his grades in the course of study for licensed ministers, properly certified by the secretary of the District Board of Ministerial Studies of the issuing District Assembly. The minister being transferred shall actively pursue the matter of the reporting of his grades in the course of study to the receiving district. [814.13]

406.2. All transfers shall be sent direct to the District Assembly to which addressed. The receiving District Assembly shall notify the issuing District Assembly of the reception of the transferred person's membership. Until the transfer is received by vote of the District Assembly to which addressed, the person thus transferred shall be a member of the issuing District Assembly. Such transfer is valid only until the close of the next session following date of issue of the District Assembly to which addressed. [203.6, 814.13]

### **G. The Retired Minister**

407. A retired minister is one who has been placed in the retired relation by the District Assembly in which he holds his ministerial membership. [203.33-3.34, 222.6]

407.1. Any minister who is in good standing and has reached the age of 65 years may request a retired relation, and, at his request, shall be placed in the retired relation by his District Assembly upon recommendation by the Board of Orders and Relations. [203.33, 228.6]

407.2. Any minister who is in good standing, but who is disqualified by physical disability or old age from engaging in such active ministerial labors as will afford him sufficient income for support, may, upon recommendation of the Committee on Orders and Relations, be placed in the retired relation by his District Assembly. [203.34]

407.3. Retirement shall not compel cessation from ministerial labors nor deprive of membership in the District Assembly. [201, 404.5]

407.4. As a condition to receiving, or continuing to receive, financial assistance from the Department of Pensions and Benevolence, it shall be required that the minister applying for such assistance be placed in the retired relation by his District Assembly, after having passed his sixty-fifth birthday. [355.1-55.2]

### **H. The Restoration of Church Membership of Ministers**

408. Any minister who is expelled or withdraws under charges may reunite with the Church of the Nazarene only with the consent of the District As-

sembly of the assembly district from which he withdrew or was expelled.

### **I. The Restoration of District Assembly Membership of Elders**

409. If for any reason the name of an elder shall be removed from a District Assembly roll, such elder shall not be recognized in any other District Assembly without having secured the written consent of the District Assembly from whose roll his name was removed.

409.1. When an elder has been deprived of his credentials by expulsion or other disciplinary action, or has surrendered his credentials for any reason, such credentials shall be sent to the General Secretary to be filed and preserved subject to the order of his District Assembly. [323.5]

409.2. When an elder in good standing surrenders his credentials for any reason, such surrendered credentials may, at any subsequent time, be restored to the elder upon order of the District Assembly to which they were surrendered, provided that the restoration of his credentials shall have been recommended by the local church of which he is a member and by the district superintendent and the District Advisory Board.

409.3. When an elder has been deprived of his credentials by expulsion or other disciplinary action, or has surrendered his credentials, except as provided in 409.2, his District Assembly may restore such credentials at any future time, provided that (1) the elder shall have given satisfactory evidence of amendment of life and conduct; and that (2) the church board of the local church of which he is a member

shall recommend the restoration of his credentials and the district superintendent and the District Advisory Board shall endorse that recommendation. In case of a question of adultery or other sex immorality, however, his credentials shall not be restored in less than two years from the date of their surrender, and then only with the additional written approval of the Board of General Superintendents.

409.4. Pastors and local church boards are advised not to engage a person who has lost his credentials as an elder or licensed minister by the action of a board of discipline in any official capacity such as a supply minister, song director, Sunday school teacher, or other, until his credentials are restored, except on written approval of both the district superintendent where such credentials were lost and the general superintendent in jurisdiction of that district.

409.5. In case the credentials of an elder have been misplaced, mutilated, or destroyed, a duplicate certificate may be issued upon the recommendation of the District Advisory Board. Such recommendation shall be made directly to the general superintendent in jurisdiction and upon his approval shall be issued by the office of the General Secretary. If the general superintendent signing the original certificate is not available, the general superintendent having jurisdiction shall sign the certificate, with notation on the back for the reason for issuing the new certificate. On the reverse side thereof shall be the following statement inscribed in writing or printing or both writing and printing, and signed by the general superintendent having jurisdiction and the district secretary:

This certificate is given to take the place of former certificate of ordination given to [name].

on the \_\_\_\_\_ day of [month], A.D. 19\_\_\_\_, by the [ordaining organization], at which date \_\_\_\_\_ he was ordained and his \_\_\_\_\_ former ordination certificate was signed by \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_.

The former certificate was [misplaced—mutilated—destroyed].

\_\_\_\_\_ General Superintendent  
 \_\_\_\_\_ District Secretary

409.6. When an elder ceases from the active ministry and takes full-time secular employment, after a period of two years his credentials shall, if the Board of Orders and Relations so requests, be filed with the General Secretary. His name shall then be recorded in the district minutes as one who has filed his credentials with the General Secretary.

When, and if, such elder wishes to reenter the active ministry, he shall be able to do so by complying with the provision in 409.2, which relates to an elder in good standing.

This action should be considered nonprejudicial to his character and standing as an elder.

## CHAPTER II

### THE EVANGELIST

410. While we recognize but one order of the official ministry, that of elder, we also recognize and hold that God calls some to be evangelists in the specialized work of holiness evangelism. "And he gave some, apostles; and some, prophets; and some, evangelists; and some, pastors and teachers" (Ephesians 4:11).

410.1. An elder who is called of God to the specialized ministry of an evangelist, who writes his district superintendent requesting an evangelist's commission, and who has been recommended by the District Advisory Board, and who has demonstrated his gifts and graces by a demand for his services through a period of at least one year as a registered evangelist, and who has been carefully considered and favorably reported upon by the Board of Orders and Relations of the District Assembly, may be granted an evangelist's commission by two-thirds vote of the District Assembly, provided he devotes the major portion of his time to the field of evangelism in the Church of the Nazarene. Such commission shall continue only until the close of the next District Assembly.

410.2. A licensed minister who has completed at least one year of the course of study for licensed ministers may, upon written request to his district superintendent, be registered to do the work of an evangelist by a two-thirds vote of the District Assembly, provided that it is his intention to devote the major portion of his time to the field of evangelism in the Church of the Nazarene. Such registration shall continue only until the close of the next District Assembly.

410.3. An elder or a licensed minister who devotes a portion of his time to evangelism may, upon written request, be registered to do the work of an evangelist by two-thirds vote of the District Assembly. Such registration shall expire at the close of the next District Assembly.

410.4. An elder or a licensed minister who desires to enter the field of evangelism prior to or following his

District Assembly may secure proper recognition by being registered with the Department of Evangelism upon the recommendation of his district superintendent pending action of the next District Assembly.

410.5. The general superintendent having jurisdiction shall issue to each commissioned evangelist an evangelist's commission and each registered evangelist an appropriate certificate signed by himself and the district secretary. [814.6]

410.6. The commissioned and/or registered evangelist shall report annually to the District Assembly of which he is a member, and shall attend the District Assembly in person, unless he can give a satisfactory reason for his absence. Should he fail to report, his commission or registration to evangelize shall not be renewed. [203.1]

### CHAPTER III

#### THE MINISTER OF CHRISTIAN EDUCATION

411. While we recognize but one order of the official ministry, that of elder, we also recognize that the Lord has always called to full-time service those who may not be called to a preaching ministry. The New Testament Church recognized the response of laymen to such a divine call. As local churches grow, such individuals become increasingly important, especially in the field of Christian education.

To encourage such persons to respond to the divine call, the church officially recognizes and endorses it, giving all suitable help to open the way for the candidate to enter this ministry. Such a person may prepare for and be commissioned a minister of Christian education. [203.12, 421]

411.1. The church expects of such persons the same spiritual qualifications, character, and manner of life as is expected of the elder as stated in 401.1-1.5.

411.2. A member of the Church of the Nazarene who feels called to the ministry of Christian education may be licensed as a director of Christian education for one year by the District Assembly by a two-thirds vote, provided he (1) has been recommended for such a license by the local church of which he is a member; (2) has been carefully examined, under the direction of the District Assembly of the assembly district within the bounds of which he holds his church membership, regarding his spiritual qualifications and general fitness for the work; and (3) has declared his intention to pursue faithfully the appropriate course of study.

411.3. A licensed director of Christian education who (1) has been recommended for renewal of district license by the church board of the local church in which he holds his membership; (2) who has successfully completed the full course of study prescribed for ministers of Christian education; and (3) since the granting of the first district license has served for at least two years in a full-time capacity as director of Christian education in a local church; (4) and has been carefully considered and favorably reported by the Board of Orders and Relations to the District Assembly, may be elected as commissioned minister of Christian education by a two-thirds vote of the District Assembly; provided that any disqualification which may have been imposed by a District Assembly has been removed in writing by the district superintendent and the District Advisory Board of the district where the disqualification was imposed and

provided further that his marriage relationship does not render him ineligible. [401.5]

411.4. No person shall be eligible to be elected as commissioned minister of Christian education after passing his sixtieth birthday.

411.5. A candidate thus elected shall be commissioned by the presiding general superintendent, upon the candidate's public avowal of his willingness to surrender the certificate of commission if he ever finds himself out of harmony with the official doctrine and practices of the Church of the Nazarene, or upon the request of the Board of Orders and Relations for cause.

411.6. The general superintendent having jurisdiction shall issue to the person so commissioned a "Certificate of Commission as a Minister of Christian Education," signed by himself and the district secretary. [§14.11]

411.7. No person shall be elected both as elder and as a commissioned minister of Christian education.

411.8. Each licensed director of Christian education and each commissioned minister of Christian education shall report annually to the District Assembly of which he is a member. Those serving in full-time relationship shall be members of the assembly.

411.9. For the exercise of his office, the minister of Christian education shall be amenable to the local pastor under whom he serves, and/or the district superintendent and the District Assembly.

## CHAPTER IV

## THE SONG EVANGELIST

**412.** Members of the Church of the Nazarene who feel called to the special ministry of song evangelism, whose intention it is to devote the major portion of their time to this ministry, and who have completed the full course of study for song evangelists, and have fulfilled all other requirements of the church for the registered song evangelist, may, upon their request in writing to their district superintendent, be recommended by the District Advisory Board, and if carefully and favorably considered by the Board of Orders and Relations of the District Assembly, be granted a song evangelist's commission by a two-thirds vote of the District Assembly. Such commission shall continue only until the close of the next District Assembly.

**412.1.** Members of the Church of the Nazarene who feel called to the ministry of song evangelism, and who devote a portion of their time to song evangelism, may become registered song evangelists by two-thirds vote of the District Assembly, provided they (1) have been recommended for such work by the church board of the local church of which they are members; (2) give evidence of grace, gifts, and usefulness; (3) have had not less than one year of vocal study under an accredited teacher and are pursuing the course of study prescribed for the song evangelist under the supervision of the District Board of Ministerial Studies or have completed the same; (4) have been carefully examined under the direction of the District Assembly of the assembly district within the bounds of which they hold their church membership, regarding their

intellectual and spiritual qualifications and general fitness for such work; (5) have stated a willingness to surrender the certificate of commission or registration if they find themselves out of harmony with the doctrine and practices of the Church of the Nazarene, or for cause, upon the request of the Board of Orders and Relations. Such registration shall continue only until the close of the next District Assembly. [422]

412.2. Those who desire to enter this field of song evangelism prior to or following their District Assembly may secure proper recognition by being registered with the Department of Evangelism upon the recommendation of their district superintendent pending action of the next District Assembly.

412.3. Each song evangelist, commissioned and registered, shall report annually to the District Assembly from which he received recognition. Should he fail to report, his commission, or registration, shall not be renewed.

412.4. The general superintendent having jurisdiction shall issue to each song evangelist a commission, or a certificate of registration, signed by himself and the district secretary. [814.8-14.9]

## CHAPTER V

### THE MINISTER OF MUSIC

414. Members of the Church of the Nazarene who feel called to the ministry of music may be commissioned as ministers of music for one year by the District Assembly, provided they (1) have been recommended for such work by the church board of the local church of which they are members; (2) give evidence of grace, gifts, and usefulness; (3) have had

at least one year of experience in music ministry; (4) have had not less than one year of vocal study under an accredited teacher and are pursuing the course of study or its equivalent prescribed for ministers of music or have completed the same; (5) are regularly engaged as ministers of music; (6) have been carefully examined under the direction of the District Assembly of the assembly district within the bounds of which they hold their church membership, regarding their intellectual and spiritual qualifications and general fitness for such work. [203.11, 422]

414.1. All ministers of music shall report annually to the District Assembly from which they receive their commissions. [203.1]

414.2. The general superintendent having jurisdiction shall issue to each minister of music a commission signed by himself and the district secretary. [814.10]

## CHAPTER VI

### THE DEACONESS

#### A. The Local Deaconess

415. A woman who is a member of the Church of the Nazarene and believes that she is divinely led to engage in ministering to the sick and the needy, comforting the sorrowing, and doing other works of Christian benevolence, and who gives evidence in her life of ability, grace, and usefulness, may be licensed as a local deaconess for one year by the church board of the local church upon recommendation of the pastor after proper examination by the church board as to her qualifications for that work. She shall be a member of

the local church where she is engaged. She shall make a report to the local church at the annual church meeting. [112.7, 136.12, 144.3]

415.1. The church board shall issue to each local deaconess a license signed by the pastor and the secretary of the church board.

415.2. The local deaconess shall work under the direction of the pastor at all times, and should be accorded respect and careful pastoral guidance in this holy calling for her very work's sake.

415.3. The license of the local deaconess may be renewed annually by the church board upon the recommendation of the pastor. The license may be suspended or revoked by the church board upon recommendation of the pastor, after giving her a fair hearing. [136.12, 140]

415.4. After serving for one year, the local deaconess may be recommended by her own local church board to the District Assembly for district deaconess' license upon recommendation of the pastor. [136.15, 203.3, 416]

## **B. The Licensed Deaconess**

416. A local deaconess in good standing in the Church of the Nazarene who feels divinely led to advance the cause of Christ by ministering to the sick and the needy, comforting the sorrowing, praying with the dying and pointing them to the Saviour, seeking the lost and wandering and endeavoring by all means to lead them to Jesus Christ and salvation, may be licensed as deaconess for one year by the District Assembly.

416.1. Qualifications for being licensed as a

deaconess by the District Assembly are that the candidate (1) shall be at least 21 years of age, (2) shall have served as local deaconess in a satisfactory manner for at least one year, (3) shall have been recommended for such license by the church board of the local church of which she is a member, (4) shall have given evidence of ability, grace, and usefulness, (5) shall have passed a satisfactory examination before the District Board of Ministerial Studies in Bible doctrine, in government of the Church of the Nazarene, and in domestic qualifications, and (6) shall declare her purpose to pursue immediately and faithfully the course of study prescribed for licensed deaconesses. [136.16, 203.3, 415.4, 422]

**416.2.** The general superintendent having jurisdiction shall issue to each licensed deaconess a license signed by himself and the district secretary. [217, 814.5]

**416.3.** The credentials of a licensed deaconess may be renewed annually by the District Assembly, provided renewal of license has been recommended by the church board of the local church of which she is a member. If the license be not renewed, she shall no longer serve as deaconess. [136.16, 203.3]

**416.4.** In the interim of sessions of the District Assembly the license of a licensed deaconess may, when it is required for the good of the church, be suspended until the next District Assembly by the District Advisory Board with the approval of the district superintendent, after a conference with the church board of the local church of which the deaconess is a member, and after giving her a fair hearing. [224]

**416.5.** All licensed deaconesses who have passed at least one-half of the prescribed course of study for

licensed deaconesses [422.1] shall be members of the District Assembly, provided they are in active service. [201, 203.1]

### C. The Consecrated Deaconess

**417.** When a licensed deaconess shall have served in that capacity for two years, shall have successfully passed the prescribed course of study, and shall have been recommended by the church board of the local church of which she is a member, she may be elected to the office of consecrated deaconess by the District Assembly, if she has not passed her sixtieth birthday. [136.26]

**417.1.** The candidate so elected shall be consecrated by the District Assembly with appropriate religious services, under the direction of the presiding general superintendent.

**417.2.** The general superintendent having jurisdiction shall issue to the deaconess so consecrated a certificate of consecration signed by himself and the district secretary. [814.3]

**417.3.** All consecrated deaconesses shall be members of the District Assembly, provided they are in active service. [201, 203.1]

### D. The Transfers of Deaconesses

**418.** When a licensed or consecrated deaconess desires to transfer to another District Assembly, a transfer of membership may be issued by vote of the District Assembly in which her membership is held, which transfer may be received by the District Assembly to which it is addressed. [203.6-3.7, 814.3]

**418.1.** When a licensed or a consecrated deaconess

desires to transfer to another District Assembly before the meeting of the District Assembly in which her membership is held, a transfer of membership may be issued by the district superintendent and the District Advisory Board, which transfer may be received by the District Assembly to which it is addressed. [203.6-3.7, 422.1, 814.13]

418.2. The transfer of a licensed deaconess shall be valid only when accompanied by a detailed record of her grades in the course of study for licensed deaconesses, properly certified by the secretary of the District Board of Ministerial Studies of the issuing District Assembly.

418.3. All transfers shall be sent direct to the District Assembly to which addressed. The receiving District Assembly shall notify the issuing District Assembly of the reception of the transferred deaconess' membership. Until the transfer is received by a vote of the District Assembly to which addressed, the deaconess thus transferred shall be a member of the issuing District Assembly. A transfer is valid only until the close of the next session following date of issue of the District Assembly to which addressed. [203.6, 814.13]

### **E. Restoration of Membership of Consecrated Deaconesses**

419. If for any reason the name of a consecrated deaconess shall be removed from a District Assembly roll, such consecrated deaconess shall not be recognized by any other District Assembly without having secured the written consent of the District Assembly from whose roll her name was removed.

PART VI

# **Courses of Study**

**MINISTERS**

**MINISTERS OF CHRISTIAN EDUCATION**

**GENERAL GUIDELINES**

## CHAPTER I

### FOR MINISTERS

420. The course of study for ministers is primarily theological and biblical in character, leading toward ordination in the ministry of the Church of the Nazarene. Students are enrolled, advanced, and graduated from the course of study by the District Board of Ministerial Studies; excepting that graduation shall be subject to a validating certificate from the Department of Education and the Ministry.

420.1. *College or College-Seminary Program.* When a candidate elects to pursue preparation for the ministry in one of the liberal arts colleges of the church, or any other college approved by the Department of Education and the Ministry, and/or Nazarene Theological Seminary, the candidate shall be graduated from the course of study when transcripts from either college or seminary or both show a minimum credit in the following subject areas: *See*

	<i>Term</i>	<i>master</i>
	<i>Hours</i>	<i>Hours</i>
Biblical Literature .....	18	12
Theology (including one semester of Doctrine of Holiness) .....	18	12
Homiletics, Practices, and Religious Education (including some credit in each of these fields) .....	18	12
Church History (including one course in the History and Polity of the Church of the		

Nazarene with special concentration in the <i>Manual</i> ) . . . . .	12	8
Evangelism and Missions . . . . .	6	4
English, Literature, and Speech . . . . .	18	12
Philosophy and Psychology (including some credit in each) . . . . .	12	8
History and Social Science . . . . .	12	8
(This would include all History courses other than Church History; Social Science would include Sociology, Economics, and Political Science)		
Science . . . . .	6	4
(This would include any Physical or Natural Science, such as Biology, Chemistry, Physics, etc.)		
	TOTAL	80
	120	80

**420.2.** *Nazarene Bible College.* Licensed ministers shall be graduated from the course of study when they have satisfactorily completed the approved three-year Bible college ministerial program of studies.

**420.3.** *Home Study Program.* A four-year Home Study Program is available, subject to the rules and procedures indicated in the *Handbook on the Ministry*.

**420.4.** Preparation for the ministry pursued in non-Nazarene schools or under non-Nazarene auspices shall be evaluated in conformity with the curricular requirements stated in the *Handbook on the Ministry* by the Department of Education and the Ministry.

**420.5.** All courses, academic requirements, and administrative regulations shall be provided by the Department of Education and the Ministry in a

*Handbook on the Ministry.* This *Handbook* and such revisions as become necessary shall be approved by the Board of General Superintendents and the General Board.

## CHAPTER II

## FOR MINISTERS OF CHRISTIAN EDUCATION

421. The course of study for ministers of Christian education is designed to prepare leaders for the Christian education activities of the local church. When completed, the programs outlined below fulfill the academic requirements for a commission which may be awarded by the District Assembly.

421.1. *College or College-Seminary Program.* When a candidate elects to pursue preparation for this work in one of the existing liberal arts Nazarene colleges, or any other college approved by the Department of Education and the Ministry, or the seminary of the church, the candidate shall be graduated from the course of study when transcripts of record showing minimum credit in the following subject areas are presented:

	<i>Se-</i> <i>Term mester</i> <i>Hours Hours</i>	
Biblical Literature .....	18	12
Theology (including one course in Doctrine of Holiness) .....	12	8
Church History (including one course in History and Polity of the Church of the Nazarene .....	9	6
Evangelism and Missions .....	6	4
Church Music .....	3	2
General and Educational		
Psychology .....	9	6
Christian Education .....	27	18
English, Literature and Speech .....	<u>12</u>	<u>8</u>
TOTAL	96	64

421.2. *Home Study Program.* A three-year home study program is available, subject to the rules and procedures indicated in the *Handbook on the Ministry*.

## CHAPTER III

**422. GENERAL GUIDELINES FOR  
PREPARATION FOR CHRISTIAN SERVICE**

**422.1.** The required courses of study, together with the necessary procedures concerning completing them, for song evangelists, ministers of music, and deaconesses, are to be found in the *Handbook on the Ministry*. Write to the Department of Education and the Ministry, 6401 The Paseo, Kansas City, Mo. 64131.

**422.2.** In districts where English is not the primary language, and a candidate has not chosen the college-seminary course for ordination, the courses of study for licensed ministers, directors of Christian education, song evangelists, ministers of music, and deaconesses shall be based on the home study courses, as printed in the *Handbook on the Ministry*, and as adapted to the needs and available literature in the districts, in consultation with the International Publications Board and the Department of Education and the Ministry.

PART VII

**Judicial  
Administration**



**CHURCH DISCIPLINE**

**DISCIPLINE OF A LAYMAN**

**DISCIPLINE OF A MINISTER**

**RULES OF PROCEDURE**

**DISTRICT COURT OF APPEALS**

**GENERAL COURT OF APPEALS**

**GUARANTY OF RIGHTS**

## I. CHURCH DISCIPLINE

500. The object of church discipline is not the punishment of offenders, but vindication of the truth, purification of the church, warning of the careless, and reformation and salvation of the guilty. Members of the church who do violence to the General or Special Rules, or who willfully and continuously violate their membership vows, should be dealt with kindly yet faithfully, according to the grievousness of their offenses.

Holiness of heart and life being the New Testament standard, the Church of the Nazarene insists upon a clean ministry, and requires that those who bear its credentials as ministers be orthodox in doctrine and holy in life. Thus the purpose of the discipline of a minister is not punitive or retributive, but is to determine the ministerial standing and church relations of a minister accused of misconduct.

## II. DISCIPLINE OF A LAYMAN

501. If a request is made for investigation of a lay member accused of unchristian conduct, the pastor shall appoint an investigating committee of three members of the local church, who shall make a written report concerning the result of their investigation. [115.15] This report must be signed by a majority and filed with the church board. The accusation upon which an investigation is made must be signed by at least two reputable members of the local church.

After the investigation and pursuant thereto, any two members in good standing in the local church may sign charges against the accused and file same with the church board. Thereupon the church board

shall appoint a local board of discipline of five members who are unprejudiced and able to hear and dispose of the case in a fair and impartial manner, and these shall conduct a hearing as soon as practicable and determine the issues involved. [136.28] After hearing the testimony of witnesses and considering the evidence, they shall either absolve the accused or administer discipline as the facts shall establish to be proper. Such decision must be unanimous. Discipline may take the form of reprimand, suspension, or expulsion from membership in the local church. Repentance, apology, or restitution may be required.

501.1. An appeal from the decision of a local board of discipline may be taken to the District Court of Appeals within 30 days by either the accused or the church board.

### III. DISCIPLINE OF A MINISTER

502. If an elder or licensed minister be accused of conduct unbecoming to a minister, or of teaching doctrines out of harmony with the doctrinal statement of the Church of the Nazarene, or of serious laxity in the enforcement of the General or Special Rules of the church, such accusation shall be placed in writing and shall be signed by at least two members of the Church of the Nazarene who are at the time in good standing; this written accusation must be filed with the District Advisory Board of the district where the accused has ministerial membership. This accusation shall become a part of the record in the case, and the accused and his counsel shall have the right to examine the accusation and to receive a copy of the same immediately upon request therefor. The District Advisory Board shall give the accused notice thereof by

placing such notice in the mail addressed to the accused, using certified or registered mail, or by personal delivery, within 10 days after the accusation is filed with the District Advisory Board.

502.1. When a written accusation is filed, the District Advisory Board shall appoint a committee of three or more elders to investigate the facts and circumstances involved and report their finding in writing and signed by a majority of the committee. If, after considering the committee's report, it shall appear that there are probably grounds for charges, such charges shall be drawn up and signed by any two elders. The District Advisory Board shall give the accused notice thereof by placing such notice in the mail addressed to the accused, using certified or registered mail, or by personal delivery, within three days after they are filed with the District Advisory Board. The accused and his counsel shall have the right to examine the charges and specifications and to receive a copy thereof immediately upon request. No accused shall be required to answer charges of which he has not been informed as specified herein. [222.4]

502.2. In case charges are filed, the District Advisory Board shall appoint five elders of the district to hear the case and determine the issues; these five elders so named shall constitute a district board of discipline to conduct the hearing and dispose of the case according to the laws of the church. No district superintendent shall serve as prosecutor or as assistant to the prosecutor in the trial of an elder or licensed minister. This board of discipline shall have power to vindicate and absolve the accused in connection with said charges or to administer discipline commensurate with the offense. Such discipline may

provide for repentance, confession, restitution, suspension, cancellation of credentials, expulsion from the ministry or membership of the church, or both, public or private reprimand, or such other discipline as may be appropriate including suspension or deferment of discipline during a period of probation not to exceed one year. [222.5]

**502.3.** When a minister is accused of immorality, or of action involving moral turpitude, disciplinary action may be taken and discipline administered by any district where such immoral acts occurred. But when disciplinary proceedings are taken on a district other than the one where the accused holds ministerial membership, only such immoral acts as may have occurred within the bounds of that district may be proved in evidence and form the basis for discipline in that proceeding.

**502.4.** It is provided that in no case shall disciplinary action be taken against a missionary by a national-mission district as such.

**502.5.** The decision of a board of discipline shall be unanimous, shall be written and signed by all members, and shall include a finding of "guilty" or "not guilty" as to each and every charge and specification.

**502.6.** Any hearing by a board of discipline herein provided for shall always be conducted within the bounds of the district where the charges were filed at a place designated by the board which is to hear the charges.

**502.7.** The procedure at any hearing shall be according to Rules of Procedure hereinafter provided for. [222.4-22.5, 403.8, 404.7, 506]

**503.** Following a decision by a board of discipline,

the accused, the District Advisory Board, or those who signed the charges shall be entitled to appeal the decision to the General Court of Appeals. The appeal shall be begun within 30 days after such decision, and the court shall review the entire record of the case and all steps which have been taken therein. If the court discovers any substantial error prejudicial to the right of any person, it shall correct such error by ordering a new hearing to be conducted in a manner capable of giving relief to that person affected adversely by previous proceedings or decision.

504. When the decision of a board of discipline is adverse to the accused minister and the decision provides for suspension from the ministry or cancellation of credentials, the minister shall thereupon immediately suspend all ministerial activity; and, if he refuses to do so, his right of appeal shall be for that reason forfeited.

504.1. When the decision of a board of discipline provides for suspension or cancellation of credentials and the accused minister desires to appeal, he shall file with the secretary of the General Court of Appeals, at the time the notice of appeal is filed, his written credentials as a minister, and his right of appeal shall be conditioned upon his compliance with this provision. When such credentials are so filed, they shall be safely kept by the said secretary until the conclusion of the case, and thereupon the same shall either be cancelled or returned to the minister as the court may direct.

#### IV. RULES OF PROCEDURE

505. The General Court of Appeals shall adopt uniform Rules of Procedure governing all proceedings

before boards of discipline and courts of appeal. After such rules are adopted and published, they shall be the final authority in all judicial proceedings. Printed Rules of Procedure shall be supplied by the General Secretary. Changes or amendments to such rules may be adopted by the General Court of Appeals at any time, and when these are adopted and published, they shall be effective and authoritative in all cases. Any steps which are thereafter taken in any proceeding shall be in accordance with such change or amendment. [502]

#### V. DISTRICT COURT OF APPEALS

506. Each regularly organized district shall have a District Court of Appeals composed of five elders elected annually by the District Assembly. This court shall hear appeals of church members concerning any action of a local church or church board when they are aggrieved or adversely affected by such action. Notice of appeal must be given in writing within 30 days after such action or after appellant has knowledge thereof. Such notice shall be delivered to the District Court of Appeals or a member thereof, and a copy of such notice shall be delivered to the pastor of the local church and to the secretary of the church board concerned. [203.27, 309.1]

506.1. The District Court of Appeals shall have jurisdiction to hear and decide all appeals of laymen or churches from the action of a board of discipline appointed to discipline a layman.

#### VI. GENERAL COURT OF APPEALS

507. The General Assembly shall elect five elders to

serve as members of the General Court of Appeals during each ensuing quadrennium, or until their successors are elected and qualified. [901.2] This court shall have jurisdiction as follows:

507.1. To hear and determine all appeals from the action or decision of any District Board of Discipline.

507.2. To hear and determine appeals concerning the action of any District Assembly affecting the interests of a minister amenable to that assembly.

507.3. To hear and determine appeals from the action of any district superintendent in matters affecting the interests of a minister. When such appeals are so determined by said court, such determination shall be authoritative and final. [215, 305.8]

508. Vacancies which may exist in the General Court of Appeals during the interim between sessions of the General Assembly shall be filled by appointment of the Board of General Superintendents. [317.5]

509. Per diem and expense allowances for members of the General Court of Appeals shall be the same as that of members of the General Board of the church, when the members of the court are engaged in official business of the court, and payment therefor shall be made by the General Treasurer.

510. The General Secretary shall be custodian of all permanent records and decisions of the General Court of Appeals. [323.4]

#### VII. GUARANTY OF RIGHTS

511. The right to a fair and impartial hearing of charges pending against an accused minister or layman shall not be denied or unduly postponed. Written charges shall be given an early hearing in

order that the innocent may be absolved and the guilty brought to discipline. Every accused is entitled to the presumption that he is innocent until proven guilty. As to each charge and specification, the prosecution shall have the burden of proving guilt to a moral certainty and beyond a reasonable doubt.

511.1. The cost of preparing the record of a case, including a verbatim transcript of all testimony given at the trial, for the purpose of an appeal to the General Court of Appeals, shall be borne by the district where the hearing was held and disciplinary action taken. Every minister or layman who appeals shall have the right to present oral as well as written argument upon his appeal, but this right may be waived in writing by the accused.

511.2. A minister or layman who is accused of misconduct or any violation of the church *Manual* and against whom charges are pending shall have the right to meet his or her accusers face-to-face and to cross-examine the witnesses for the prosecution.

511.3. The testimony of any witness before a board of discipline shall not be received or considered in evidence unless such testimony be given under oath or solemn affirmation.

511.4. A minister or layman who is brought before a board of discipline to answer charges shall always have the right to be represented by counsel of his or her own choosing, provided such counsel be a member in good standing in the Church of the Nazarene. Any full member of a regularly organized church against whom no written charges are pending will be considered in good standing.

511.5. A minister or layman shall not be required to answer charges for any act which occurred more than

five years before the filing of such charges, and no evidence will be considered at any hearing for any matter which occurred more than five years before the charges were filed.

511.6. A minister or layman shall not be twice placed in jeopardy for the same offense. It shall not be considered, however, that such person was placed in jeopardy at any hearing or proceeding where the court of appeals discovers reversible error committed in the original proceeding before a board of discipline.



PART VIII

# Boundaries



**ASSEMBLY DISTRICTS**  
**CHURCH ZONES**

## CHAPTER I

### ASSEMBLY DISTRICTS

600. Missionary work in the Church of the Nazarene shall lead to the establishment of new districts and District Assembly boundaries. Regular districts may emerge as quickly as possible according to the following pattern:

600.1. *The Pioneer District.* Such a district represents the beginning stages of work in a given country or area and will be under the supervision of a missionary superintendent.

600.2. *The National-Mission District.* A pioneer district may become a national-mission district when a measure of ability for self-government and for financial support has been demonstrated. A national leader shall be selected as district superintendent.

600.3. *The Mission District.* A district having a national superintendent and having achieved 50 per cent self-support.

600.4. *The Regular District.* A district having a national superintendent and having achieved full district self-support and having not less than 1,000 non-probationary district membership.

600.5. In each instance the change in designation shall be upon the recommendation of the department of the General Board having supervision of the work and with the approval of the Board of General Superintendents and the General Board.

601. AKRON DISTRICT shall include that portion of the state of Ohio in the counties of Belmont, Carroll, Columbiana, Guernsey, Harrison, Jefferson, Mahoning, Monroe, Noble, Portage, Stark, Summit, Trumbull, and Tuscarawas.

**602.** ALABAMA DISTRICT shall include the state of Alabama.

**603.** ALASKA DISTRICT shall include the state of Alaska, and for administrative purposes the Yukon Territory.

**604.** ARIZONA DISTRICT shall include the state of Arizona and that portion of the state of Utah lying south of the northern boundary of Beaver, Piute, Wayne, and San Juan counties along with Clark and Lincoln counties in the state of Nevada.

**605.** AUSTRALIAN DISTRICT shall include the continent of Australia.

**606.** BRITISH ISLES NORTH DISTRICT shall include Scotland, Ireland, and the counties of Cumberland, Westmorland, Northumberland, and Durham in England.

**607.** BRITISH ISLES SOUTH DISTRICT shall include Wales, and all of England, except the counties of Cumberland, Westmorland, Northumberland, and Durham.

**608.** CANADA ATLANTIC DISTRICT shall include the four Atlantic provinces of Canada, namely, Nova Scotia, New Brunswick, Prince Edward Island, and Newfoundland.

**609.** CANADA CENTRAL DISTRICT shall include the provinces of Ontario and Quebec, Canada.

**610.** CANADA PACIFIC DISTRICT shall include the province of British Columbia, in Canada.

**611.** CANADA WEST DISTRICT shall include the provinces of Alberta, Saskatchewan, Manitoba, and the Northwest Territories of Canada.

**612.** CENTRAL CALIFORNIA DISTRICT shall include that portion of the state of California beginning at the northern intersection of the Santa Clara-Stanislaus

county lines, proceeding east along the northern boundary of the Stanislaus County line, and continuing east along the Stanislaus River to the intersection of Calaveras and Tuolumne county lines; then east along the northern boundary of the Tuolumne County line to the intersection with Alpine County; then south on a line along the western border of Alpine, Mono, and Inyo counties to the intersection with Kern County; then to include all of Kern County west of United States Highway 6 and north of the Tehachapi Mountains as the southern boundary of the district. The western boundary of the district shall be a line drawn along the western boundaries of Kern, Kings, Fresno, Merced, and Stanislaus county lines to the intersection with the San Joaquin County line.

613. CENTRAL FLORIDA DISTRICT shall include that portion of the state of Florida between a line on the south made up by the north and westerly county lines of Manatee, Hardee, Highlands, Okeechobee, and St. Lacie counties; and on the north by a line formed by the southern extent of Township 18, south, from the Atlantic Ocean north of Oak Hill to the east line of Lake County, then south to the north line of Orange County, then due west following the southern extent of Township 19, south, to the Gulf of Mexico near Homosassa.

614. CENTRAL LATIN AMERICAN DISTRICT shall include the state of Texas, except for that portion within the boundaries of the New Mexico District, and the states of Oklahoma, Kansas, and Colorado.

615. CENTRAL OHIO DISTRICT shall include that portion of the state of Ohio in the counties of Athens, Fairfield, Franklin, Gallia, Hocking, Jackson, Lawrence, Licking, Meigs, Morgan, Muskingum,

Perry, Pickaway, Pike, Ross, Scioto, Vinton, and Washington.

**616.** CHICAGO CENTRAL DISTRICT shall include that portion of the state of Illinois that lies east of the west boundaries of McHenry, Kane, Kendall, Grundy, Kankakee, and Ford counties, and north of the north line of Champaign County and that part of Vermillion County which lies north of United States Highway 10, including the city of Danville but not including the town of Oakwood.

**617.** COLORADO DISTRICT shall include the state of Colorado.

**618.** DAKOTA DISTRICT shall include the states of North and South Dakota.

**619.** DALLAS DISTRICT shall include that portion of the state of Texas east of the ninety-seventh meridian, excepting that portion of Dallas County west of said meridian and with the exception of that portion of Denton County east of said meridian; and north of a line beginning at the east border of the north line of Sabine County and continuing west on the north boundary of San Augustine County to Grisby, thence west through Alto and Teague to the ninety-seventh meridian, and including the towns and cities on this line.

**620.** EASTERN KENTUCKY DISTRICT shall be composed of that portion of Kentucky east of the eastern boundaries of Gallatin, Owen, Scott, Fayette, Jessamine, Garrard, Lincoln, Pulaski, and Wayne counties.

**621.** EASTERN LATIN AMERICAN DISTRICT shall include the geographical area of the New York District and the states of Massachusetts, Connecticut, and New Jersey.

**622.** EASTERN MICHIGAN DISTRICT shall include that

portion of the state of Michigan known as the Lower (Southern) Peninsula that lies east of the west boundaries of Tuscola, Genessee, Livingston, Washtenaw, and Lenawee counties.

623. EAST TENNESSEE DISTRICT shall include that portion of the state of Tennessee which lies east of the west boundary line of Macon, Trousdale, Wilson, Rutherford, Bedford, and Lincoln counties.

624. GEORGIA DISTRICT shall include the state of Georgia.

625. GUATEMALA NORTHEAST DISTRICT shall include the departments of Peten, Alta Verapaz, Izabal, Baja Verapaz, El Progreso, Zacapa, Guatemala, Jalapa, and Chiquimula.

626. HAWAII PACIFIC DISTRICT shall include the state of Hawaii and the Marianas Islands.

627. HOUSTON DISTRICT shall include that portion of the state of Texas lying east of the ninety-seventh meridian and south of a line beginning at the east border of the north line of Sabine County and continuing west through Alto and Teague to the ninety-seventh meridian, with the exception of the towns and cities on this line.

628. ILLINOIS DISTRICT shall include that portion of the state of Illinois lying south of the north boundary of Adams, Brown, Cass, Menard, Logan, DeWitt, Piatt, and Champaign counties and that portion of Vermillion County south of United States Highway 10 and including the town of Oakwood.

629. INDIANAPOLIS DISTRICT shall include that portion of the state of Indiana south of the fortieth parallel of latitude east of a line formed by the west boundary of Boone, Hendricks, and Morgan counties; north of the south boundary of Morgan, Johnson, and

Shelby counties; and east of the west boundary of Decatur, Jennings, and Jefferson counties.

**630.** INTERMOUNTAIN DISTRICT shall include that portion of the state of Idaho south of the Salmon River; that portion of the state of Oregon embracing the following counties, namely, Willows, Union, Baker, Grant, Harney, and Malheur; that portion of the state of Nevada embracing the following counties, namely, Humboldt, Pershing, Lander, Elko, Eureka, and White Pine; and that portion of the state of Utah lying north of the southern boundary of Millard, Sevier, Emery, and Grand counties.

**631.** IOWA DISTRICT shall include the state of Iowa.

**632.** JOPLIN DISTRICT shall include that portion of the state of Kansas lying east of the west boundaries of Coffey, Woodson, Wilson, and Montgomery counties and south of the north boundary of Coffey, Anderson, and Linn counties; and that portion of the state of Missouri lying south of the north boundary of Bates, Henry, Benton, and Morgan counties and west of the east boundary of Morgan, Camden, Laclede, Wright, Douglas, and Ozark counties.

**633.** KANSAS DISTRICT shall include that portion of the state of Kansas lying west of the east boundaries of the following counties, namely, Marshall, Pottawatomie, Wabaunsee, Lyon, Greenwood, Elk, and Chautauqua.

**634.** KANSAS CITY DISTRICT shall include that portion of the state of Kansas lying east of the west boundary of Nemaha, Jackson, Shawnee, and Osage counties and north of the north boundary of Coffey, Anderson, and Linn counties; and that portion of the state of Missouri lying west of the east boundary of Mercer, Grundy, Livingston, Carroll, Saline, and Pet-

tis counties and north of the north boundary of Bates, Henry, Benton, and Morgan counties.

**635.** KENTUCKY DISTRICT shall be composed of that portion of Kentucky west of the eastern boundaries of Gallatin, Owen, Scott, Fayette, Jessamine, Garrard, Lincoln, Pulaski, and Wayne counties.

**636.** LOS ANGELES DISTRICT shall include that portion of the state of California lying south of the northern boundary of San Luis Obispo and Kern counties, with the exception of that portion of Kern County north of the Tehachapi Mountains; that portion of Los Angeles County lying north of a line beginning at the Pacific Ocean and Imperial Boulevard and continuing in a northeasterly direction along Imperial Boulevard, Alameda Street, Washington Boulevard, Rio Hondo River, the crest of Puente Hills, and the San Dimas Canyon Road to the southern boundary of Angeles National Forest and the San Bernardino County line; and the whole of Inyo County.

**637.** LOUISIANA DISTRICT shall include the state of Louisiana.

**638.** MAINE DISTRICT shall include the state of Maine.

**639.** MICHIGAN DISTRICT shall include that portion of the state of Michigan known as the Lower (Southern) Peninsula that lies west of the west boundaries of Tuscola, Genessee, Livingston, Washtenaw, and Lenawee counties, and that part of the Upper Peninsula that lies east of the east county lines of Delta and Alger counties.

**640.** MINNESOTA DISTRICT shall include the state of Minnesota.

**641.** MISSISSIPPI DISTRICT shall include the state of Mississippi.

642. MISSOURI DISTRICT shall include that portion of the state of Missouri lying east of the western boundaries of the counties of Putnam, Sullivan, Linn, Chariton, Howard, Cooper, Monteau, Miller, Pulaski, Texas, and Howell.

643. NEBRASKA DISTRICT shall include the state of Nebraska.

644. NEW ENGLAND DISTRICT shall include the states of New Hampshire, Vermont, Massachusetts, Rhode Island, and that portion of the state of Connecticut east of a line running north from Bridgeport, Conn., excluding Bridgeport, to the Massachusetts line.

645. NEW MEXICO DISTRICT shall include the state of New Mexico and that portion of the state of Texas west of the one hundred third meridian.

646. NEW YORK DISTRICT shall include that portion of the state of New York which lies south of the southern boundary of Delaware, Greene, and Columbia counties; that portion of the state of New Jersey lying north of a line drawn between Phillipsburg and Long Branch, including the city of Long Branch; that portion of the state of Connecticut west of a line running north from Bridgeport, Conn., including Bridgeport, to the Massachusetts line; and the island of Bermuda.

647. NORTH AMERICAN INDIAN DISTRICT shall include the states of Arizona, New Mexico, Oklahoma, and that portion of Southeastern California known as Riverside, and Imperial Counties.

648. NORTH ARKANSAS DISTRICT shall include that portion of the state of Arkansas that lies north of a line formed by Interstate 40 from the Tennessee line to the city limits of North Little Rock at the Dark Hollow Interchange of Highways I-40, 67, and 167; thence

due north to Jacksonville Boulevard at Bel-air and northeasterly along Jacksonville Boulevard to McCor Street, north to a point approximately four blocks beyond the intersection of Lansing and Hill Boulevard; then west to a point approximately one block north of the intersection of Lockridge with Crestwood, north to Riderwood Road and Greenhurst, west to Lowrance at a point approximately a block north of Tanglewood, Lowrance Drive to Sixty-third Street, west on High Street, south on High and Baucum to Crystal Street; thence westerly to the intersection of Hilliard with the west boundary of Burns Park, south along the Park boundary to the Arkansas River; thence westerly along the Arkansas and Maumelle rivers to Pinnacle Valley Road, south on Pinnacle Valley Road to State Route 10, and west on Route 10 and the southerly line of Sebastian County to the Oklahoma state line. The towns and cities on Highway 10 and Sebastian County line are on the South Arkansas District.

**649.** NORTH CAROLINA DISTRICT shall include the state of North Carolina.

**650.** NORTH CENTRAL OHIO DISTRICT shall include that portion of the state of Ohio in the counties of Ashland, Ashtabula, Coshocton, Crawford, Cuyahoga, Delaware, Erie, Geauga, Holmes, Huron, Knox, Lake, Lorain, Marion, Medina, Morrow, Ottawa, Richland, Sandusky, Seneca, Wayne, and Wyandot.

**651.** NORTH FLORIDA DISTRICT shall include that portion of the state of Florida lying north of a line formed by the southern extent of Township 18, south, from the Atlantic Ocean north of Oak Hill to the east line of Lake County, then south to the north line of

Orange County, then due west following the southern extent of Township 19, south, to the Gulf of Mexico near Homocassa.

**652. NORTHEAST OKLAHOMA DISTRICT** shall include that portion of the state of Oklahoma east of the line formed by the Missouri, Kansas, and Texas Railway from Oklahoma City, in a northerly direction to the Arkansas River, including the towns and cities thereon except Oklahoma City; thence the Arkansas River to the Kansas state line; and north of U.S. Highway 62 from Oklahoma City to Henryetta; thence U.S. Highway 268 to Warner; thence U.S. Highway 64 to the Arkansas line.

**653. NORTHEASTERN INDIANA DISTRICT** shall include that portion of the state of Indiana lying north of the fortieth parallel of latitude and south and east of a line starting at the fortieth meridian on the Hamilton and Madison county lines, running due north to the Miami County line, west to the Cass County line, north to the northwest corner of Miami County, thence east to the Wabash County line, following the Fulton and Kosciusko county lines to Marshall County, thence north to the Michigan state line.

**654. NORTHERN CALIFORNIA DISTRICT** shall include the following counties of the state of California: Del Norte, Humboldt, Mendocino, Lake, Sonoma, Marin, Napa, Contra Costa, Alameda, San Francisco, San Mateo, Santa Clara, Santa Cruz, San Benito, Monterey, and that portion of Solano County lying west of a line drawn due southward from the point where the line of Solano and Napa counties turns sharply westward to the channel of Suisun Bay.

**655. NORTHWEST DISTRICT** shall include that portion of the state of Washington east of the Cascade Moun-

tains; that portion of the state of Idaho north of the Salmon River; and Sherman, Gilliam, Morrow, and Umatilla counties in the state of Oregon.

**656.** NORTHWEST INDIANA DISTRICT shall include that portion of the state of Indiana lying north and west of a line starting at the fortieth meridian on the Hamilton and Madison county line, running due north to the Miami County line, west to the Cass County line, north to the northwest corner of Miami County, thence east to the Wabash County line, following the Fulton and Kosciusko county lines to Marshall County, thence north to the Michigan state line.

**657.** NORTHWEST OKLAHOMA DISTRICT shall include that portion of the state of Oklahoma that lies north of United States Highway 66, not including the towns and cities thereon with the exception of that portion of Oklahoma County north of a line from the North Canadian River to MacArthur Avenue on 36th Street, west of MacArthur from 36th to 39th Street, north of 39th Street from MacArthur to May Avenue, west of May Avenue from 39th to 50th streets, and north of 50th Street from May Avenue to the Missouri, Kansas, and Texas Railway and west of a line formed by the Missouri, Kansas, and Texas Railway running northeasterly from Oklahoma City to the Arkansas River, not including the towns and cities thereon, and thence northwesterly up the Arkansas River to the Kansas line.

**658.** NORTHWESTERN ILLINOIS DISTRICT shall include that portion of the state of Illinois north of the south boundary of Hancock, Schuyler, Mason, Tazewell, and McLean counties and west of the east boundary of McLean, Livingston, LaSalle, DeKalb, and Boone counties.

659. NORTHWESTERN OHIO DISTRICT shall include that portion of the state of Ohio west of the west boundary of Pickaway, Franklin, Delaware, Marion, Wyandot, Seneca, Sandusky, and Ottawa counties and north of the north boundary of Preble, Montgomery, Greene, and Fayette counties.

660. OREGON PACIFIC DISTRICT shall include that portion of the state of Oregon west of the east boundary of Wasco County, south of the north boundary of Wheeler County, and west of the east boundary of Wheeler, Crook, Deschutes, and Lake counties.

661. PERU NORTH DISTRICT shall be composed of the departments of Tumbes, Piura, Lambayeque, Cajamarca, Amazonas, San Martin, La Libertad, Ancash, the part of Huanuco north of the Trans-Amazon Highway, the part of Loreto north of the Trans-Amazon Highway, to the border of Brazil.

662. PHILADELPHIA DISTRICT shall be composed of that part of the state of Pennsylvania lying east of the boundary line between Potter and Tioga counties and east of a line drawn from a point at the northern crest of the Allegheny Mountains to Duncannon, thence following the Susquehanna River to the Maryland state line; and that portion of the state of New Jersey which lies south of a line drawn between Long Branch and Phillipsburg, including the city of Phillipsburg.

663. PITTSBURGH DISTRICT shall include that portion of the state of Pennsylvania west of the boundary line of Potter and Tioga counties, thence following a line due south through Clinton County, to the crest of the Allegheny Mountains, and south along this crest to the Maryland state line.

664. ROCKY MOUNTAIN DISTRICT shall include the states of Montana and Wyoming.

**665.** SACRAMENTO DISTRICT shall include the counties of Modoc, Siskiyou, Trinity, Shasta, Tehama, Butte, Glenn, Colusa, Sutter, Yuba, Nevada, Yolo, Sacramento, Placer, El Dorado, Alpine, Calaveras, Amador, San Joaquin, Mono, Lassen, Plumas, Sierra, and that portion of Solano County lying east of a line beginning at the point where Napa, Solano, and Yolo counties meet, and running southward on the Napa-Solano county line to where the line turns sharply west; from that point due south to the Suisun Bay; then due east along the Bay Channel to the westernmost tip of the Sacramento County line; and that portion of the state of Nevada embracing the following counties, namely, Washoe, Storey, Lyon, Douglas, Churchill, Mineral, Esmeralda, and Nye.

**666.** SAN ANTONIO DISTRICT shall include that portion of the state of Texas lying between the ninety-seventh meridian and the one hundred third meridian, south of the thirty-second parallel, except that all the incorporated city of Midland and none of the incorporated city of Hillsboro shall be included in the San Antonio District.

**667.** SOUTH AFRICAN DISTRICT shall include the work among the Europeans in southern Africa.

**668.** SOUTH ARKANSAS DISTRICT shall include that portion of the state of Arkansas that lies south of a line formed by Interstate 40 from the Tennessee line to the city limits of North Little Rock at the Dark Hollow Interchange of highways I-40, 67, and 167; thence due north to Jacksonville Boulevard at Bel-air and northeasterly along Jacksonville Boulevard to McCor Street, north to a point approximately four blocks beyond the intersection of Lansing and Hill Boule-

vard; then west to a point approximately one block north of the intersection of Lockridge with Crestwood, north to Riderwood Road and Greenhurst, west to Lowrance at a point approximately a block north of Tanglewood, north on Lowrance Drive to Sixty-third Street, west to High Street, south on High and Baumcum to Crystal Street; thence westerly to the intersection of Hilliard with the west boundary of Burns Park, south along the Park boundary to the Arkansas River; thence westerly along the Arkansas and Mautelle rivers to Pinnacle Valley Road, south on Pinnacle Valley Road to State Route 10, and west on Route 10 and the southerly line of Sebastian County to the Oklahoma state line. The towns and cities on Highway 10 and Sebastian county line are on the South Arkansas District.

**669.** SOUTH CAROLINA DISTRICT shall include the state of South Carolina.

**670.** SOUTHEAST OKLAHOMA DISTRICT shall include that portion of the state of Oklahoma east of a line formed by the Santa Fe Railway from the Red River in a northerly direction to Oklahoma City, not including Oklahoma City and other towns and cities thereon; and south of U.S. Highway 62 from Oklahoma City to Henryetta; thence U.S. Highway 206 to Warner; thence U.S. Highway 64 to the Arkansas line, including the towns and cities thereon.

**671.** SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA DISTRICT shall include that portion of the state of California lying south of a line beginning in Los Angeles County at the Pacific Ocean and Imperial Boulevard and continuing in a northeasterly direction along Imperial Boulevard, Alameda Street, Washington Boulevard, Rio Hondo River, the crest of Puente Hills, and the San Dimas

Canyon Road to the southern boundary of Angeles National Forest and the San Bernardino County line; and of the northern boundary of San Bernardino County.

**672.** SOUTHERN FLORIDA DISTRICT shall include that portion of the state of Florida lying south of and including the counties of Manatee, Hardee, Highlands, Okeechobee, and St. Lucie.

**673.** SOUTHWEST INDIANA DISTRICT shall include that portion of the state of Indiana that lies south of the fortieth parallel of latitude; west of a line formed by the east boundary of Montgomery, Putnam, and Owen counties; south of the north boundary of Monroe, Brown, and Bartholomew counties; and west of the east boundary of Bartholomew, Jackson, Scott, and Clark counties.

**674.** SOUTHWEST OKLAHOMA DISTRICT shall include that portion of the state of Oklahoma that lies west of a line formed by the Santa Fe Railway running northerly from the Red River to Oklahoma City, including the towns and cities thereon, except that portion of Oklahoma County north of a line from the North Canadian River to MacArthur Avenue on 36th Street, west of MacArthur from 36th to 39th Street, north of 39th Street from MacArthur to May Avenue, west of May Avenue from 39th to 50th Streets, and north of 50th Street from May Avenue to the Missouri, Kansas, and Texas Railway, and south of United States Highway 66, including the towns and cities thereon with the exception of that portion of Oklahoma County above specified.

**675.** SOUTHWESTERN OHIO DISTRICT shall include that portion of the state of Ohio west of the west boundary of Scioto, Pike, Ross, and Pickaway coun-

ties and south of the north boundary of Preble, Montgomery, Greene, and Fayette counties.

676. **TENNESSEE DISTRICT** shall include that portion of the state of Tennessee that lies west of the east boundary of Sumner, Davidson, Williamson, Marshall, and Giles counties and the city of Fulton, Ky.

677. **UPSTATE NEW YORK DISTRICT** shall include all the portion of the state of New York north of and including Delaware, Greene, and Columbia counties.

678. **VIRGINIA DISTRICT** shall include the state of Virginia.

679. **WASHINGTON DISTRICT** shall include that portion of the state of Pennsylvania lying west of a line drawn from a point at the northern crest of the Allegheny Mountains to Duncannon, including the town of Duncannon and west of the Susquehanna River and east of the crest of the Allegheny Mountains; all the states of Delaware and Maryland, that portion of West Virginia composed of the counties of Hardy, Grant, Mineral, Hampshire, Morgan, Berkeley, and Jefferson, and the District of Columbia.

680. **WASHINGTON PACIFIC DISTRICT** shall include that portion of the state of Washington west of the Cascade Mountains.

681. **WEST TEXAS DISTRICT** shall include that portion of the state of Texas north of the thirty-second parallel and west of the ninety-seventh meridian, excepting the portion in Dallas County west of said meridian, with the addition of that portion of Denton County east of said ninety-seventh meridian.

682. **WEST VIRGINIA DISTRICT** shall include the state of West Virginia, excepting the seven counties of Hardy, Grant, Mineral, Hampshire, Morgan, Berkeley, and Jefferson.

**683. WESTERN LATIN AMERICAN DISTRICT** shall include the states of California and Arizona and the geographical area of the New Mexico District.

**684. WISCONSIN DISTRICT** shall include the state of Wisconsin and that portion of the state of Michigan known as the Upper Peninsula, lying west of the east county lines of Delta and Alger counties.

## CHAPTER II

### CHURCH ZONES

The Church of the Nazarene shall be divided into the following zones for the purpose of administrative representation on general boards and councils, and for educational support:

**685. Canadian Zone:** Canada Atlantic, Canada Central, Canada Pacific, Canada West, and the Yukon Territory

**686. Central Zone:** Chicago Central, Eastern Michigan, Illinois, Indianapolis, Michigan, North-eastern Indiana, Northwest Indiana, Northwestern Illinois, Southwest Indiana, Wisconsin

**687. East Central Zone:** Akron, Central Ohio, North Central Ohio, Northwestern Ohio, Southwestern Ohio, Eastern Kentucky, West Virginia

**688. Eastern Zone:** Maine, New York, New England, Philadelphia, Pittsburgh, Upstate New York, Virginia, Washington

**689. North Central Zone:** Dakota, Iowa, Kansas, Kansas City, Joplin, Minnesota, Missouri, Nebraska

**690. Northwest Zone:** Alaska, Colorado, Inter-mountain, Northwest, Oregon Pacific, Rocky Mountain, Washington Pacific

**691. South Central Zone:** Dallas, Houston, Loui-

siana, North Arkansas, Northeast Oklahoma, Northwest Oklahoma, San Antonio, South Arkansas, Southeast Oklahoma, Southwest Oklahoma, West Texas

692. *Southeast Zone*: Alabama, Central Florida, East Tennessee, Georgia, Kentucky, Mississippi, North Carolina, North Florida, South Carolina, Southern Florida, Tennessee

693. *Southwest Zone*: Arizona, Central California, Hawaii Pacific, Los Angeles, New Mexico, Northern California, Sacramento, Southern California

694. *INTERCONTINENTAL ZONES*: For administrative representation, there shall be *three Intercontinental Zones*.

694.1. *Intercontinental Zone I* [Euro-Africa] shall include mission and regular districts in Europe, the Middle East, and Africa as follows:

British Isles North; British Isles South; Rhodesia; Zambia; Coloured and Indian Northern; Coloured and Indian Western Cape; European South African; Middle European; Mozambique Limpopo; Mozambique Maputo; Mozambique Mavengane; Mozambique Tavane; Republic of Cape Verde; Republic of South Africa Southeast; Swaziland Northern; and such other districts, as they may attain the level for designation as mission districts according to 600.3.

694.2. *Intercontinental Zone II* [Oceania-Asia] shall include mission and regular districts in Australia, Asia, and the Orient as follows:

Australia; Japan; Korea Central; Korea South; Philippines-Luzon; Republic of China-Taiwan; New Zealand; and such other districts as they may

attain the level for designation as mission districts according to 600.3.

694.3. *Intercontinental Zone III* [Hispanic American] shall include mission and regular districts in Mexico, Central America, Caribbean, and South America as follows:

Argentina Central; Barbados; Belize; Bolivia La Paz; Brazil Central; Cuba; Guatemala Northeast; Mexico Central; Mexico Northeast; Mexico Northwest; Mexico Southeast; Nicaragua West; Peru North; Puerto Rico-Virgin Islands; Trinidad and Tobago; Central Latin American District; Eastern Latin American District; Western Latin American District; and North American Indian District; and such other districts as they may attain the level for designation as mission district according to 600.3.



PART IX

# Ritual



**THE SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM**

**THE RECEPTION OF CHURCH MEMBERS**

**THE SACRAMENT OF THE LORD'S SUPPER**

**MATRIMONY**

**THE FUNERAL SERVICE**

**INSTALLATION OF OFFICERS**

**CHURCH DEDICATIONS**

## 800. THE SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM

### A. The Dedication or Baptism of Children

*When the sponsors have presented themselves with the child (or children) before the minister at his call, the minister shall say:*

"Then were brought unto him little children, that he should put his hands on them, and pray; and the disciples rebuked them. But Jesus said, Suffer little children, and forbid them not, to come unto me: for of such is the kingdom of heaven."

In presenting this child for dedication [baptism], you not only signify your faith in the Christian religion, but also your desire that [he/she] may early know and follow the will of God, may live and die a Christian, and come unto everlasting blessedness.

In order to attain this holy end, it will be your duty, as parents [guardians], to teach [him/her] early the fear of the Lord, to watch over [his/her] education, that [he/she] be not led astray; to direct [his/her] youthful mind to the Holy Scriptures, and [his/her] feet to the sanctuary; to restrain [him/her] from evil associates and habits; and, as much as in you lies, to bring [him/her] up in the nurture and admonition of the Lord.

Will you endeavor to do so by the help of God? If so, answer, "I will."

Our loving Heavenly Father, we do here and now dedicate [baptize] \_\_\_\_\_ in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

*Then may the minister offer the following prayer, or may use an extemporary prayer.*

Heavenly Father, we humbly pray that Thou wilt take this child into Thy loving care. Abundantly

enrich [him/her] with Thy heavenly grace; bring [him/her] safely through the perils of childhood; deliver [him/her] from the temptations of youth; lead [him/her] to a personal knowledge of Christ as Saviour; help [him/her] to grow in wisdom and in stature, and in favor with God and man, and to persevere therein to the end. Uphold the parents with loving care, that with wise counsel and holy example they may faithfully discharge their responsibilities both to this child and to Thee. In the name of Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

### **B. The Baptism of Believers**

DEARLY BELOVED: Baptism is the sign and seal of the new covenant of grace, the significance of which is attested by the Apostle Paul in his letter to the Romans as follows:

"Know ye not, that so many of us as were baptized into Jesus Christ were baptized into his death? Therefore we are buried with him by baptism into death: that like as Christ was raised up from the dead by the glory of the Father, even so we also should walk in newness of life. For if we have been planted together in the likeness of his death, we shall be also in the likeness of his resurrection" (Romans 6:3-5).

The earliest and simplest statement of Christian belief, into which you now come to be baptized, is the Apostles' Creed, which reads as follows:

"I believe in God the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth;

"And in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord; who was conceived by the Holy Ghost, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead, and buried; He descended into hell; the third

day He arose again from the dead; He ascended into heaven, and sitteth at the right hand of God the Father Almighty; from thence He shall come to judge the quick and the dead.

"I believe in the Holy Ghost, the holy Church of Jesus Christ, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting."<sup>22</sup>

Will you be baptized into this faith? If so, answer, "I will."<sup>23</sup>

Will you obey God's holy will and keep His commandments, walking in them all the days of your life?

*Response:* I will.

The celebrator, giving the full name of the person and using the preferred form of baptism—sprinkling, pouring, or immersion—shall say:

\_\_\_\_\_, I baptize thee in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

## 801. THE RECEPTION OF CHURCH MEMBERS

The prospective members having come forward to stand before the altar of the church, the pastor shall address them as follows:

**DEARLY BELIEVED:** The privileges and blessings which we have in association together in the Church of Jesus Christ are very sacred and precious. There is in it such hallowed fellowship as cannot otherwise be known.

There is such helpfulness with brotherly watch care and counsel as can be found only in the Church.

There is the godly care of pastors, with the teachings of the Word; and the helpful inspiration of social worship. And there is cooperation in service, accomplishing that which cannot otherwise be done.

The doctrines upon which the church rests as essential to Christian experience are brief. We believe in God the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. We especially emphasize the deity of Jesus Christ and the personality of the Holy Spirit.

We believe that man is born in sin; that he needs the work of forgiveness through Christ and the new birth by the Holy Spirit; that subsequent to this there is the deeper work of heart cleansing or entire sanctification through the infilling of the Holy Spirit, and that to each of these works of grace the Holy Spirit gives witness.

We believe that our Lord will return, the dead shall be raised, and that all shall come to final judgment with its rewards and punishments.

Do you heartily believe these truths? If so, answer, "I do."

Do you acknowledge Jesus Christ as your personal Saviour, and do you realize that He saves you now?

*Response:* I do.

Desiring to unite with the Church of the Nazarene, do you covenant to give yourself to the fellowship and work of God in connection with it, as set forth in the General Rules and Special Rules of the Church of the Nazarene? Will you endeavor in every way to glorify God, by a humble walk, godly conversation, and holy service; by devotedly giving of your means; by faithful attendance upon the means of grace; and, abstaining from all evil, will you seek earnestly to perfect holiness of heart and life in the fear of the Lord?

*Response:* I will.

The minister shall then say to the person or persons:

I welcome you into this church, to its sacred fellowship, responsibilities, and privileges. May the great Head of the Church bless and keep you, and enable you to be faithful in all good works, that your life and witness may be effective in leading others to Christ.

He shall then take each one by the hand, and with appropriate words of personal greeting welcome each into the church.

(Alternate form for members joining by letter of transfer)

\_\_\_\_\_, formerly a member [members] of the Church of the Nazarene at \_\_\_\_\_, comes [come] to join the fellowship of this local congregation.

Taking each by the hand, or speaking to the group, the minister shall say:

It gives me pleasure on behalf of this church to welcome you into our membership. We trust that we will be a source of encouragement and strength to you and that you, in turn, will be a source of blessing and help to us. May the Lord richly bless you in the salvation of souls and in the advancement of His kingdom.

## 802. THE SACRAMENT OF THE LORD'S SUPPER

The administration of the Lord's Supper may be introduced by an appropriate address and the reading of 1 Corinthians 11:23-26; Luke 22:14-20, or some other suitable passage. Let the minister then give the following invitation:

The Lord himself ordained this holy sacrament. He commanded His disciples to partake of the bread and wine, emblems of His broken body and shed blood. This is His table. The feast is for His disciples. Let all those who have with true repentance forsaken their sins, and have believed in Christ unto salvation, draw near and take these emblems, and, by faith, partake of the life of Jesus Christ, to your soul's comfort and joy. Let us remember that it is the memorial of the death and passion of our Lord; also a token of His coming again. Let us not forget that we are one, at one table with the Lord.

The minister may offer a prayer of confession and supplication, concluding with the following prayer of consecration:

Almighty God, our Heavenly Father, who of Thy tender mercy didst give Thine only Son, Jesus Christ, to suffer death upon the Cross for our redemption: hear us, we most humbly beseech Thee. Grant that, as we receive these Thy creatures of bread and wine according to the holy institution of Thy Son, our Saviour Jesus Christ, in remembrance of His passion and death, we may be made partakers of the benefits of His atoning sacrifice.

We are reminded that, in the same night that our Lord was betrayed, He took bread and, when He had given thanks, He broke it and gave it to His disciples, saying, "Take, eat: this is My body, which is broken for you: do this in remembrance of Me." Likewise, after supper, He took the cup, and when He had given

thanks, He gave it to them, saying, "Drink ye 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 oft as ye shall drink it, in remembrance of Me."

May we come before Thee in true humility and faith as we partake of this holy sacrament. Through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

*Then may the minister, first partaking himself, with the assistance of any other ministers present, and when necessary, of the stewards, administer the Communion to the people.*

*While the bread is being distributed, let the minister say:*

The body of our Lord Jesus Christ, which was broken for you, preserve you blameless, unto everlasting life. Take and eat this, in remembrance that Christ died for you.

*As the cup is being passed, let the minister say:*

The blood of our Lord Jesus Christ, which was shed for you, preserve you blameless unto everlasting life. Drink this, in remembrance that Christ's blood was shed for you, and be thankful.

*After all have partaken, the minister may then offer a concluding prayer of thanksgiving and commitment.*

## 803. MATRIMONY

At the day and time appointed for the solemnization of matrimony, the persons to be married—having been qualified according to law—standing together, the man on the right hand and the woman on the left, the minister shall address the congregation as follows:

**DEARLY BELOVED:** We are gathered together here 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 honorable estate, instituted of God in the time of man's innocency, signifying unto us the mystical union that exists between Christ and His Church. This holy estate Christ adorned and beautified with His presence and first miracle that He wrought, in Cana of Galilee, and St. Paul commended as being honorable among all men. It is, therefore, not to be entered into unadvisedly, but reverently, discreetly, and in the fear of God.

Into this holy estate these persons present now come to be joined.

Addressing the couple to be married, the minister shall say:

\_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_, I require and charge you both that, if either of you knows any impediment why you may not be lawfully joined together in matrimony, you do now confess it: for be well assured that so many as are coupled together otherwise than God's Word allows are not joined together by God, neither is their matrimony lawful.

If no impediment be alleged, then shall the minister say unto the man:

\_\_\_\_\_, 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, honor and keep her in sickness and in health; and forsaking all others, keep yourself only unto her,

so long as you both shall live?

*Response:* I will.

Then shall the minister say unto the woman:

\_\_\_\_\_, 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, honor, and keep him, in sickness and in health; and, forsaking all others, keep yourself only unto him, so long as you both shall live?

*Response:* I will.

Then the minister shall ask:

Who gives this woman to be married to this man?

*Response* (by the father, or whoever gives the bride in marriage): I do.

Facing each other and joining right hands, the couple shall then exchange the following vows:

The man shall repeat after the minister:

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 us do part, according to God's holy ordinance; and thereto I pledge you my faith.

The woman shall repeat after the minister:

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 us do part, according to God's holy ordinance; and thereto I pledge you my faith.

If desired, a ring ceremony may be inserted at this point. The minister

receives the ring from the groomsmen and, in turn, passes it to the groom. As he then places it upon the bride's finger, he shall repeat after the minister:

This ring I give you as a token of my love and as a pledge of my constant fidelity.

The couple then shall kneel as the minister offers the following, or an extemporaneous prayer:

O Eternal God, Creator and Preserver of all mankind, Giver of all spiritual grace, the Author of everlasting life, send Thy blessing upon these Thy servants, this man and this woman, whom we now bless in Thy name; that as Isaac and Rebekah lived faithfully together, so these persons may surely perform and keep the vow and covenant made between them this hour and may ever remain in love and peace together, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Then shall the minister say:

Forasmuch as this man and woman have consented together in holy wedlock, and have witnessed the same before God and this company, and have declared the same by joining of 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 man put asunder. Amen.

The minister shall then add his blessing:

God, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, bless, preserve, and keep you; the Lord mercifully with His favor look upon you, and fill you with all spiritual benediction and grace. May you so live together in this life that in the world to come you may have life everlasting.

The minister may then conclude with an extemporaneous prayer and/or benediction.

## 804. THE FUNERAL SERVICE

DEARLY BELIEVED: We are gathered today to pay our final tribute of respect to that which was mortal of our deceased loved one and friend. To you members of the family who mourn your loss, we especially offer our deep and sincere sympathy. May we share with you the comfort afforded by God's Word for such a time as this:

"Let not your heart be troubled; ye believe in God, believe also in me. In my Father's house are many mansions: if it were not so, I would have told you. I go to prepare a place for you. And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again, and receive you unto myself; that where I am, there ye may be also" (John 14:1-3).

"I am the resurrection and the life: he that believeth in me, though he were dead, yet shall he live: and whosoever liveth and believeth in me shall never die" (John 11:25-26).

INVOCATION (*in the minister's own words or the following*):

Almighty God, our Heavenly Father, we come into this sanctuary of sorrow, realizing our utter dependence upon Thee. We know Thou dost love us and canst turn even the shadow of death into the light of morning. Help us now to wait before Thee with reverent and submissive hearts.

Thou art our Refuge and Strength, O God—a very present Help in time of trouble. Grant unto us Thy abundant mercy. May those who mourn today find comfort and healing balm in Thy sustaining grace.

We humbly bring these petitions in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ. Amen.

A HYMN OR SPECIAL SONG

SELECTIONS OF SCRIPTURE:

"Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, which according to his abundant mercy hath begotten us again unto a lively hope by the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead, to an inheritance incorruptible, and undefiled, and that fadeth not away, reserved in heaven for you, who are kept by the power of God through faith unto salvation ready to be revealed in the last time. Wherein ye greatly rejoice, though now for a season, if need be, ye are in heaviness through manifold temptations: that the trial of your faith, being much more precious than of gold that perisheth, though it be tried with fire, might be found unto praise and honour and glory at the appearing of Jesus Christ: whom having not seen, ye love; in whom, though now ye see him not, yet believing, ye rejoice with joy unspeakable and full of glory: receiving the end of your faith, even the salvation of your souls" (1 Peter 1:3-9).

(Other passages which might be used are: Matthew 5:3-4, 6, 8; Psalm 27:3-5, 11, 13-14; 49:1-5, 10-11.)

MESSAGE

A HYMN OR SPECIAL SONG

CLOSING PRAYER



## AT THE GRAVESIDE

When the people have assembled, the minister may read any or all of the following scriptures:

"For I know that my redeemer liveth, and that he shall stand at the latter day upon the earth: and though after my skin worms destroy this body, yet in my flesh shall I see God: whom I shall see for myself, and mine eyes shall behold, and not another" (Job 19:25-27).

"Behold, I shew you a mystery; We shall not all sleep, but we shall all be changed, in a moment, in the twinkling of an eye, at the last trump: for the trumpet shall sound, and the dead shall be raised incorruptible, and we shall be changed. . . .

"Then shall be brought to pass the saying that is written, Death is swallowed up in victory. O death, where is thy sting? O grave, where is thy victory? The sting of death is sin; and the strength of sin is the law. But thanks be to God, which giveth us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ.

"Therefore, my beloved brethren, be ye steadfast, unmoveable, always abounding in the work of the Lord, forasmuch as ye know that your labour is not in vain in the Lord" (1 Corinthians 15:51-58).

"I heard a voice from heaven saying unto me, Write, Blessed are the dead which die in the Lord from henceforth: Yea, saith the Spirit, that they may rest from their labours: and their works do follow them" (Revelation 14:13).

The minister shall then read one of the following committal statements:

*For a Believer:*

Forasmuch as the spirit of our departed loved one has returned to God, who gave it, we therefore tender-

ly commit [his/her] body to the grave in sure trust and certain hope of the resurrection of the dead and the life of the world to come, through our Lord Jesus Christ, who shall give to us new bodies like unto His glorious body. "Blessed are the dead which die in the Lord."

*For a Nonbeliever:*

We have come now to commit the body of our departed friend to its kindred dust. The spirit we leave with God, for we know the merciful Judge of all the earth will do right. Let us who remain dedicate ourselves anew to live in the fear and love of God, so that we may obtain an abundant entrance into the heavenly Kingdom.

*For a Child:*

In the sure and certain hope of the resurrection to eternal life through our Lord Jesus Christ, we commit the body of this child to the grave. And as Jesus, during His earthly life, took the children into His arms and blessed them, may He receive this dear one unto Himself, for, as He said, "of such is the kingdom of heaven."

PRAYER:

Our Heavenly Father, God of all mercy, we look to Thee in this moment of sorrow and bereavement. Comfort these dear ones whose hearts are heavy and sad. Wilt Thou be with them, sustain and guide them in the days to come. Grant, O Lord, that they may love and serve Thee and obtain the fullness of Thy promises in the world to come.

"Now the God of peace, that brought again from the dead our Lord Jesus, that great shepherd of the sheep, through the blood of the everlasting covenant, make you perfect in every good work to do his will, working in you that which is wellpleasing in his sight, through Jesus Christ; to whom be glory for ever and ever. Amen" (Hebrews 13:20–21).

## 805. INSTALLATION OF OFFICERS

Following the singing of an appropriate hymn, let the secretary read the names and positions of the officers to be installed. These may come forward and stand at the altar of the church, facing the minister. A covenant card\* should be provided for each. The minister shall then say:

Recognizing God's method of setting apart certain workers for specific areas of Christian service, we come to this moment of installation of these officers [and/or teachers] who have been duly chosen to serve in our church for the ensuing year. Let us consider God's instructions to us from His Holy Word.

"I beseech you therefore, brethren, by the mercies of God, that ye present your bodies a living sacrifice, holy, acceptable unto God, which is your reasonable service. And be not conformed to this world: but be ye transformed by the renewing of your mind, that ye may prove what is that good, and acceptable, and perfect, will of God" (Romans 12:1-2).

"Study to shew thyself approved unto God, a workman that needeth not to be ashamed, rightly dividing the word of truth" (2 Timothy 2:15).

"Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly in all wisdom; teaching and admonishing one another in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing with grace in your hearts to the Lord" (Colossians 3:16).

"Let him that is taught in the word communicate unto him that teacheth in all good things" (Galatians 6:6).

\*Available from the Nazarene Publishing House.

We now come to this important moment when you who stand before the altar are to take upon yourselves the task of caring for the affairs of the church and its auxiliary organizations. May you look upon the assignments you now assume as special opportunities

for service for our Lord, and may you find joy and spiritual blessing in the performance of your respective duties.

Yours is no light task, for the ongoing of the church and the destiny of souls are in your hands. The development of Christian character is your responsibility, and leading the unsaved to Jesus Christ is your highest objective. May God grant you wisdom and strength as you do His work for His glory.

You have been given a card on which is printed a covenant. We shall read it in unison, and as we do so, let us make it a personal commitment.

#### WORKER'S COVENANT

In consideration of the confidence placed in me by the church in being selected for the office I now assume, I hereby covenant:

To maintain a high standard of Christian living and example in harmony with the ideals and standards of the Church of the Nazarene.

To cultivate my personal Christian experience by setting aside each day a definite time for prayer and Bible reading.

To be present at the regular Sunday school, the Sunday morning and Sunday evening preaching services, and the midweek prayer meeting of the church, unless providentially hindered.

To attend faithfully all duly called meetings of the various boards, councils, or committees to which I have been, or will be, assigned.

To notify my superior officer if I am unable to be present at the stated time, or to carry out my responsibilities in this office.

To read widely the denominational publications,

and other books and literature which will be helpful to me in discharging the duties of my office.

To improve myself and my skills by participating in Christian Service Training courses as opportunity is afforded.

To endeavor to lead people to Jesus Christ by manifesting an active interest in the spiritual welfare of others and by attending and supporting all evangelistic meetings in the church.

*The minister shall then offer an appropriate prayer, and a special song of dedication may be sung, after which he shall say:*

Having pledged together your hearts and hands to the task of carrying forward the work of this church in your particular assignments, I herewith install you in the respective positions to which you have been elected or appointed. You are now a vital part of the organizational structure and leadership of this church. May you, by example, by precept, and by diligent service, be effective workers in the vineyard of the Lord.

*The minister shall ask the congregation to rise, and shall address them as follows:*

You have heard the pledge and covenant entered into by your church leaders for the coming year. I now charge you, as a congregation, to be loyal in your support of them. The burdens which we have laid upon them today are heavy, and they will need your assistance and prayers. May you always be understanding of their problems and tolerant of their seeming failures. May you lend assistance joyfully when called upon, so that, as we work together, our church may be an effective instrument in winning the lost to Christ.

*The minister may then lead in a concluding prayer or have the congregation repeat the Lord's Prayer in unison.*

## 806. CHURCH DEDICATIONS

*Minister:* Having been prospered by the hand of the Lord and enabled by His grace and strength to complete this building to the glory of His name, we now stand in God's presence to dedicate this structure to the service of His kingdom.

To the glory of God our Father, from whom cometh every good and perfect gift; to the honor of Jesus Christ, our Lord and Saviour; and to the praise of the Holy Spirit, Source of light, and life, and power—our Sanctifier,

*Congregation:* We do now, with joy and gratitude, humbly dedicate this building.

*Minister:* In remembrance of all who have loved and served this church, establishing the heritage we now enjoy, and who are now part of the Church Triumphant,

*Congregation:* We gratefully dedicate this edifice [sanctuary, education building, fellowship hall, etc.].

*Minister:* For worship in prayer and song, for the preaching of the Word, for the teaching of the Scriptures, and for the fellowship of the saints,

*Congregation:* We solemnly dedicate this house of God.

*Minister:* For the comfort of those who mourn, for the strengthening of the weak, for the help of those who are tempted, and for the giving of hope and courage to all who come within these walls,

*Congregation:* We dedicate this place of fellowship and prayer.

*Minister:* For the sharing of the good news of salvation from sin, for the spreading of scriptural holiness, for the giving of instruction in righteousness, and for the service of our fellowmen,

*Congregation:* We reverently dedicate this building.

*Unison:* We, as laborers together with God, now join hands and hearts and dedicate ourselves anew to the high and holy purposes to which this building has been set apart. We pledge our loyal devotion, faithful stewardship, and diligent service to the end that in this place the name of the Lord shall be glorified, and His kingdom shall be advanced; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

PART X

**Auxiliary  
Constitutions**



**NAZARENE YOUTH INTERNATIONAL**  
**NAZARENE WORLD MISSIONARY**  
**SOCIETIES**  
**SUNDAY SCHOOLS**

## CHAPTER I

### 810. CONSTITUTIONS FOR NAZARENE YOUTH INTERNATIONAL

#### 810.1. Local Organization

##### ARTICLE I. Name

The organization shall be called Nazarene Youth International (NYI) of the \_\_\_\_\_ Church of the Nazarene.

##### ARTICLE II. Purpose

The purpose of NYI shall be to build up its members in Christian faith and in holy character and to instruct them in the Word of God and in the doctrines of the church. It shall also be the purpose of NYI to bring others to Christ and to provide ways for equipping youth for the total mission of the church.

##### ARTICLE III. Motto

"Don't let anyone look down on you because you are young, but set an example for the believers in speech, in life, in love, in faith and in purity" (1 Timothy 4:12, NIV)."

##### ARTICLE IV. Membership

SECTION 1. Membership in Nazarene Youth International shall be open to all persons desiring the benefits and responsibilities of NYI, between the ages of 12 and 21 inclusive.\*\*

SEC. 2. Officers (Article V, Section 1) of the organization shall be members of the Church of the Nazarene ages 12 through 40 who shall become ex officio members of NYI.

SEC. 3. Membership in the organization shall be divided into three divisions: Early Youth, Senior Youth, and Career Youth.

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\*\*In response to cultural diversity in world areas, the General Council is empowered to extend the age range at the request of a district council.

SEC. 4. The organization shall be composed of three divisions:

Early Youth (ages 12-14)

Senior Youth (ages 15-18)

Career Youth (ages 19-23)

SEC. 5. The local church may also choose to function with a combination or variation of these divisions.

SEC. 6. Only those members (12-23 and elected/ex officio officers) who are members of the Church of the Nazarene shall vote in the business meetings of NYL. In the case of the annual meeting, those whose names appear on the ballot may also vote and have the privileges of the meeting.

SEC. 7. Eligibility to hold elective office, serve on standing committees or as delegate to District Convention shall be limited to members of the Church of the Nazarene ages 12-40.

#### ARTICLE V. *Officers*

SECTION 1. The officers of this organization shall be a president, a vice-president, a secretary, and a treasurer. All officers shall be members of the local church whose organization they serve.

SEC. 2. The officers shall be elected annually by the members of the organization and shall serve for the period of the district assembly year, and until their successors are elected and qualified.

SEC. 3. The president of the local organization shall be nominated by the nominating committee, consisting of not fewer than three nor more than seven members of the NYL, including the pastor, and appointed by the pastor. This committee shall submit at least two names for the office of president (who have reached their fifteenth birthday) providing, however, that a president may be reelected by a yes-or-no vote when such election is recommended by the nominating committee and approved by the pastor. The president shall be elected by majority vote of the members present and voting by ballot. His election shall be subject to the approval of the church board. He shall be a member, ex officio, of the church board, to which he shall make a monthly report. He

shall submit a report to the annual meeting of the local church.

SEC. 4. The vice-president of the organization shall be elected from one or more names submitted by the nominating committee provided in Section 3.

SEC. 5. Other officers of the organization shall be elected from nominations submitted by the nominating committee.

SEC. 6. In the event of a vacancy in the office of NYI president, such a vacancy shall be filled in harmony with the provisions for the election of president outlined in Section 3.

#### ARTICLE VI. *Executive Council*

SECTION 1. The executive council shall consist of the pastor and/or associate(s) (as determined by the pastor), the officers of NYI and the chairmen of the standing committees (Article VII, Section 4) and shall provide unified direction for the total local youth ministry.

SEC. 2. In an organization functioning with more than one division the executive council shall consist of the pastor and/or associate(s) (as determined by the pastor), the officers of NYI and the presidents of the divisions. (See Article VII, Section 1.)

SEC. 3. In an organization functioning with more than one division where there may be adult leaders, in addition to the elected officers, the adult leaders shall also be members of the executive council. (See Article VII, Section 2.)

SEC. 4. In churches not having an organized NYI, the church board may serve as NYI executive council, so that the needs of the youth of the church may be served.

#### ARTICLE VII. *Division Officers*

SECTION 1. The officers of each of the three divisions of the organization shall consist of a president, a vice-president, a secretary, and a treasurer, who shall be elected by ballot at an annual meeting of the division.

SEC. 2. Leader(s) of each division shall be nominated by a committee composed of the NYI president, the pastor, and the executive committee of the division, and shall be elected by the executive council of the NYI, of which he shall

become a member. There shall be no age limit on this (these) leader(s). The assistant(s) to the leaders shall be approved by the executive council.

SEC. 3. The executive committee of each division shall consist of the officers, the chairmen of the standing committees, and the leader.

SEC. 4. Each division of the organization may have a program committee, evangelism and missions committee, literature committee, activities committee, and such other committees as are necessary for properly conducting its work. The committee chairmen shall be elected by the executive committee of the division of which they shall become members.

#### ARTICLE VIII. Meetings

SECTION 1. An annual meeting of the Nazarene Youth International shall be held in harmony with the *Manual*, paragraph 112.6, within sixty (60) days of the District Assembly. Other business meetings may be held during the year on call of the executive council and with the approval of the pastor.

SEC. 2. At the annual meeting, there shall be elected the officers of the organization in harmony with Article V, Sections 1-5, of the Local Constitution. There shall also be elected delegates to the District Convention of the NYI in harmony with Article II, Section 2, of the District Constitution, and alternate delegates in equal numbers.

SEC. 3. A semiannual conference of the NYI consisting of the pastor, the executive council, and the executive committees of the three divisions may be held to plan the work of all divisions of the NYI.

#### ARTICLE IX. Amendments

This constitution may be amended by a two-thirds vote of all members present and voting at the General Convention of the Nazarene Youth International organization and by the approval of the General Assembly. All resolutions concerning such amendments must be in the hands of the general NYI secretary 30 days prior to the opening of the General Convention.

## 810.2. District Nazarene Youth International

### ARTICLE I. Membership

All local organizations of NYI within the boundaries of the \_\_\_\_\_ District shall be members of the District Nazarene Youth International.

### ARTICLE II. Conventions

SECTION 1. There shall be an annual District Convention of Nazarene Youth International, at which reports shall be received from the district officers, directors from the District Council, and zone presidents, and any business pertaining to the work of NYI may be transacted.

SEC. 2. The District Convention shall be composed of the members of the District Council, the district superintendent, the district zone presidents, pastors of local churches, full-time salaried associates, local NYI presidents or their vice, local division leaders, elders of the district within the NYI officer age limits, and three elected delegates who are actively involved in the local NYI for each organization with 30 or fewer members, and one additional delegate for each successive 30 members or final major part of 30 members. Where practical at least half of the delegation shall be in the basic age-group (ages 12 through 23), and each of the three divisions be represented in the elected delegation.

SEC. 3. One delegate of NYI officer age may be appointed by the pastor of each local church not having an organized NYI.

### ARTICLE III. Officers

SECTION 1. The officers of the district shall be a president, a vice-president, a secretary, a treasurer, who shall be elected by ballot at the annual convention and who shall serve until the close of the following convention and until their successors are elected and qualified.

SEC. 2. All district officers shall be members of the Church of the Nazarene within the bounds of the district at the time of their election and within the age limits of 12 through 40 years.

ARTICLE IV. *District Council*

## SECTION 1.

(1) The District Council shall be composed of the officers of the District Nazarene Youth International, the district superintendent, the full-time district youth director (if there be such), leaders of the three divisions, director of literature, director of evangelism and missions, director(s) of youth camps, teen Bible quizzing, and IMPACT, and six members-at-large elected by ballot by the annual convention, two of whom shall be elected from each division.

(2) Or the District Convention may elect the necessary number of persons to fill the various appointed Council positions to serve with the officers and members-at-large on the District Council. They shall be elected by majority vote by ballot from nominees submitted by a nominating committee. The elected members, along with the officers and members-at-large, shall organize, assigning each member responsibilities in accordance with Paragraph 1, Section 1, of this Article.

(3) Regional representatives to the General Council shall be ex officio members of the District Council of the district of which they are members.

SEC. 2. The District Council may elect a director of literature, a director of evangelism and missions, a director of teen Bible quizzing, and a director of IMPACT (see Article IV, Section 1, Paragraph 2, District Constitution). In cases where a separate Youth Camp Board does not exist, the youth camp director(s) may be selected by the Council.

SEC. 3. The District Council shall fill any vacancies that may occur in the council between conventions. Should a vacancy occur in the office of district president, a nominating committee of from three to five members of the District NYI Council shall be appointed by the district superintendent, who shall serve as chairman. The committee shall submit at least two nominees for election by majority vote of the District Council.

ARTICLE V. *Salaried Youth Director*

Wherever desired, the District Convention may establish a plan for the election of a salaried district youth director, subject to the approval of the district superintendent and the District Advisory Board.

ARTICLE VI. *District Zones*

The annual District Convention may order the district divided into zones.

ARTICLE VII. *Amendments*

This constitution may be amended by a two-thirds vote of all members present and voting at the General Convention of the Nazarene Youth International organization and by the approval of the General Assembly. All resolutions concerning such amendments must be in the hands of the General NYI Secretary 30 days prior to the opening of the General Convention.

**810.3 General Nazarene Youth International**ARTICLE I. *Membership*

All district and local organizations of Nazarene Youth International shall constitute the General Nazarene Youth International, which shall be administratively related to the General Board through the Department of Youth Ministries.

ARTICLE II. *Convention*

SECTION 1. There shall be a General Quadrennial Convention of Nazarene Youth International. The length of this convention and the time it shall convene shall be decided upon by the General NYI Council in consultation with the Board of General Superintendents.

SEC. 2. The General NYI Council shall announce the time and place of the General Convention at least ninety (90) days previous to such conventions.

SEC. 3. The General NYI Convention shall be composed of the members of the General NYI Council, the executive

director of the Department of Youth Ministries, district NYI presidents serving at the time of General Convention, the student body president-elect of each school with membership in the Nazarene Student Leadership Conference. In addition, district representation shall consist of one ministerial delegate of NYI leadership age (full-time active elder or district-licensed minister at the time of the General Convention), and one lay delegate who is a local or district officer (serving on a local or district council at the time of his election), and one delegate representing the 12-23 age-group, for the first 1,000 or fewer members; and one ministerial delegate of NYI leadership age (full-time active elder or district-licensed minister at the time of the General Convention), and one lay delegate who is a local or district officer (serving on a local or district council at the time of his election), and one delegate representing the 12-23 age-group for each successive 1,500 members and the final major part of 1,500 members, based on the membership report of the District Assembly prior to the General Convention. All shall be elected by ballot by majority vote at a session of the District Convention within 18 months of the General Convention. All members of the General Convention shall be members of the Church of the Nazarene at the time of the General Convention.

SEC. 4. Each delegate to the General Convention shall at the time of the General Convention be a member of the Church of the Nazarene on the district from which he is elected and residing on that district.\* No delegate who is an NYI officer shall be seated in the General Convention who has passed his forty-first birthday at the time of the convening of the convention. Other delegates shall be within the NYI age limits (12-23) at the convening of the convention.

\*Not intended to apply to those living near district boundaries where their home residence may be across the line from the place of regular church participation.

SEC. 5. In the case of a minister who is elected as an NYI officer delegate, he shall be a member on the district where he is elected and serving on that assembly district from

which he was elected at the time of the General Convention.

SEC. 6. In the case of world mission districts, General Convention representation shall be guided by the policy of the Department of World Mission.

### ARTICLE III. *General Council*

SECTION 1. The General Convention shall elect by two-thirds majority vote by ballot two general officers, a president and a secretary, who shall serve without salary.

SEC. 2. At the General Convention there shall be elected to the General NYI Council one member from each of the church zones in the United States and one member from each of the following zones: Intercontinental I, Intercontinental II, and Intercontinental III, and Canada. (See General Bylaws, Article I, Section 2.)

SEC. 3. The General Council shall elect by majority vote one member-at-large to the Council whose purpose shall be to adequately represent outreach ministries among North American ethnic minorities.

SEC. 4. All of these elected officers shall be voting members of Nazarene Youth International, and shall not have reached their thirty-seventh birthday at the time of their election.

SEC. 5. The General Convention shall also elect three members-at-large who shall be voting members of the NYI and within the age group 12-23 at the time of election. Two of these at-large members of the Council shall not have reached their seventeenth birthday at the time of election. These shall be elected by majority vote.

SEC. 6. The incumbent student cochairman of the Nazarene Student Leadership Conference shall be an ex-officio member of the General Council. He must be a member of the Church of the Nazarene.

SEC. 7. No U.S. or Canadian zone representative of the General Council shall be elected to serve more than two quadrennia. No general president or secretary shall serve more than one quadrennium. No Intercontinental I, Inter-

continental II, or Intercontinental III representative shall be elected to serve more than one quadrennium.

SEC. 8. These elected officers shall constitute a General Council to serve until the close of the following Quadrennial Convention or until their successors are elected and qualified. The executive director of the Department of Youth Ministries shall be an ex officio member of the General Council.

SEC. 9. The General Council, in consultation with the executive director of the Department of Youth Ministries and the Board of General Superintendents, shall fill any vacancy that may occur on the Council between General Conventions according to Article I, Sections 4 and 5, of the General Bylaws.

SEC. 10. In the event a zone representative of the General Council shall move his residence or transfer his church membership during the quadrennium from the zone he represents, his membership on the General Council shall be terminated at once and the vacancy so created shall be filled in accordance with Article I, Section 5, of the General Bylaws.

SEC. 11. The general superintendent assigned as advisor to the Department of Youth Ministries shall be designated advisor to the NYI Council.

SEC. 12. The duties of the General Council shall be defined by the Bylaws adopted by the General Convention.

#### ARTICLE IV. Amendments

This constitution may be amended by a two-thirds vote of members present and voting at a General Convention of the Nazarene Youth International and by the approval of the General Assembly. All resolutions concerning such amendments must be in the hands of the General NYI Secretary 30 days prior to the opening of the General Convention.

## CHAPTER II

811. CONSTITUTIONS FOR NAZARENE  
WORLD MISSIONARY SOCIETIES

## 811.1. Local Nazarene World Missionary Society

ARTICLE I. *Name*

This society shall be called the Nazarene World Missionary Society of the \_\_\_\_\_ Church of the Nazarene.

ARTICLE II. *Object*

The object of this society shall be to enlist the members of the church in active missionary service, in united prayer, and in the study of the salvation needs of the world; to promote a wider knowledge of the mission fields of the Church of the Nazarene; to inspire and challenge the youth to open minds and willing hearts for God-called missionary service on the mission fields of the church; and to raise funds, as elsewhere provided for in this constitution, for extending the kingdom of Jesus Christ around the world. This society shall be a constituent part of the local church and subject to the supervision of the pastor and the church board.

ARTICLE III. *Membership*

The membership of the local NWMS shall be divided into three classes: active, associate, and junior members.

SECTION 1. *Active Members*

Any person 12 years old or over and a member of the Church of the Nazarene may become an Active Member of the society to participate in the achieving of the above stated objectives. Voting and holding office shall be limited to active members, except in junior and teen chapters.

SEC. 2. *Associate Members*

Any person 12 years old and over and not a member of the Church of the Nazarene may become an Associate Member

of the society to participate in the achieving of the above stated objectives.

### SEC. 3. *Junior Members*

Children under the age of 12 may become Junior Members of the society to participate in the achieving of the above stated objectives.

## ARTICLE IV. *Officers*

### SECTION 1. *Election of Council*

The officers of the society shall be president, vice-president, secretary, treasurer, and secretaries for mission education, publicity, LINKS, World Mission, membership, and prayer and self-denial.

The president, vice-president, secretary, treasurer, mission education secretary, and publicity secretary shall constitute the executive committee and shall be elected by ballot annually by members of the society.

All other secretaries may be elected by the society or appointed by the executive committee. The pastor shall be an ex officio member of the NWMS executive committee.

These officers and secretaries, together with chapter chairmen, junior and youth supervisors, and pastor, shall constitute the local NWMS council.

Any duly elected District NWMS Council member shall automatically be a member ex officio of the local NWMS council of the church of which he/she is a member.

### SEC. 2. *Election of President*

The president shall be nominated by a committee of not less than three nor more than seven active members of the Nazarene World Missionary Society appointed by the pastor, who shall serve as chairman. This committee shall submit one or more names for the office of president, providing, however, that any incumbent president may be reelected by a yes-no vote when such election is recommended by the nominating committee and approved by the pastor. The president shall be elected by a majority vote by ballot of the active members present and voting, and this

election shall be subject to the approval of the church board. The president shall be a member of the local church whose society is served, a member, *ex officio*, of the church board, and a member of the District Assembly.

*NOTE:* Where there are two or more chapters in the local society, follow the plan provided for in Article VIII.

See local bylaws for duties of officers, appointment of supervisors, assistants, and committees.

### SEC. 3. Vacancies

Vacancies occurring in any elective office shall be filled by a majority vote of active NWMS members present at any regular monthly meeting of the society.

In the case of a vacancy in the office of the local president, the executive committee shall nominate one or more names for the office of president.

### ARTICLE V. Representation at District Convention

Local representation at the District NWMS Convention shall be composed of:

1. The pastor of the local church, the local NWMS president, both of whom are members of the District NWMS Convention by virtue of office; and the president-elect (if there is a change) serving as one of the elected delegates. In the event that the local president is unable to attend or serve, the local vice-president is seated in his or her place. In the event the local vice-president is unable to attend or serve, the newly elected vice-president may be seated in his or her place.
2. Two elected delegates for the first 25 active NWMS members or less, and one additional delegate for each additional 25 active members, or major portion thereof.

### ARTICLE VI. Meetings

#### SECTION 1. Monthly

There shall be one or more meetings for mission inspiration and prayer held each calendar month, or a minimum of 12 meetings a year.

**SEC. 2. Annual**

The annual meeting of the society shall be held at least 30 days prior to the District Assembly, at which meeting officers for the ensuing year shall be elected.

Chapter officers shall be elected and/or appointed before the District Convention.

Officers shall assume their duties at the close of the District Assembly or the District NWMS Convention, whichever is later.

**ARTICLE VII. Funds****SECTION 1. General Budget**

All funds raised by this society for the General Budget shall be sent direct to the General Treasurer.

Funds for the support of General Budget shall be raised in the following manner: (1) from the regular missionary society General Budget offerings; (2) and from Self-denial offerings if the local church so desires; (3) from special offerings such as the Easter and Thanksgiving offerings.

**SEC. 2. Specials**

Opportunity shall be given to contribute to world mission specials over and above the General Budget apportionment such as Alabaster and World Mission Radio. Additional world mission specials may be approved and authorized by the Department of World Mission and the executive director of the department.

**SEC. 3. Medical Plan and Retirement Fund**

The Medical Plan and Retirement Fund shall be held in trust by the General Treasurer for the General Nazarene World Missionary Society and shall be used for medical aid for active missionaries and pensions and medical aid for retired missionaries, such aid to be granted by the Department of World Mission according to their established policy. Funds shall be raised by (1) placing names on the Memorial Roll by the payment of \$30.00 for that purpose; (2) presenting a Distinguished Service Award to a chosen recipient to be honored for service to the Kingdom by the

payment of \$100 for that purpose; (3) receiving one or more special offerings a year for Medical Plan and Retirement.

#### SEC. 4. *General Funds Exclusive*

No part of the above general funds shall be used for local or district expense or charitable purposes.

#### SEC. 5. *Local Expense*

A local expense fund shall be provided either by assessment or freewill offerings (the amount to be determined by local needs). A percentage of the local expense fund may be set aside to help defray the expenses of the delegates to the District Convention.

NOTE: Since our church is strictly opposed to engaging in any form of merchandising to raise funds for the support of the church and its missionary program, local societies shall refrain from engaging in the sale of merchandise or food as an organization or in the name of the Nazarene World Missionary Society.

### ARTICLE VIII. *Chapters*

#### SECTION 1. *Chapters*

This society may have one or more chapters as may be authorized by the executive committee, and approved by the pastor and local church board; and these together shall constitute the local society. A chapter is an integral part of the local society, the division being made for the matter of convenience.

A local society may request the organization of women's chapters, men's chapters, chapters including both men and women, youth chapters, teen-age chapters, children's chapters.

#### SEC. 2. *Election*

These chapters meeting in joint session shall elect the officers authorized in Article IV. The executive committee of the local society shall have general oversight of the work of the various chapters, receiving all literature for distribution to the various chapters, and keep records and send reports for the combined chapters.

**SEC. 3. Chapter Officers**

The officers of each chapter shall be chairman, vice-chairman, secretary, treasurer, and secretaries for mission education, publicity, LINKS, World Mission, membership, and Prayer and Self-denial.

These officers shall be elected by ballot annually by the members of the chapter prior to the District Convention. (Officers of the local society may hold office in any chapter.) The chapter chairman, vice-chairman, secretary, treasurer, mission education secretary, and publicity secretary shall constitute the chapter executive committee.

**SEC. 4. Nomination of Chapter Officers**

Chapter officers shall be nominated by a nominating committee appointed by the pastor.

A chapter chairman is a member of the local NWMS council.

**ARTICLE IX. Amendments**

This constitution may be amended by a two-thirds vote of all members present and voting at the General Convention of the Nazarene World Missionary Society, and by the approval of the Department of World Mission.

### **811.2. District Nazarene World Missionary Society**

**ARTICLE I. Membership**

All local Nazarene World Missionary Societies within the boundaries of \_\_\_\_\_ District shall be members of the District Nazarene World Missionary Society. The activities of this society shall be under the supervision of the district superintendent, the District Advisory Board, the District Assembly, and the District NWMS Council.

**ARTICLE II. District Convention****SECTION 1. Purpose**

There shall be an annual District Convention of the Nazarene World Missionary Society for the purpose of hear-

ing reports of district officers and local presidents, uniting in prayer for the work, making aggressive plans for propagating missionary information and inspiration in the local societies, and conducting any business pertaining to the district organization.

The time and place of the annual NWMS Convention shall be decided by the District NWMS Council in consultation with the district superintendent.

### SEC. 2. *Membership*

The District Convention shall be composed of the District NWMS Council, the district superintendent, pastors of the local churches, NWMS zone chairmen, the presidents of local societies, two delegates from each local society having an active membership of 25 or less, and one additional delegate for each additional 25 active members (or major portion thereof); and General NWMS Council members, retired missionaries, missionaries on furlough, and missionary appointees who hold their church membership on the district.

## ARTICLE III. *Officers*

### SECTION 1. *District Council*

The officers of the society shall be president, vice-president, secretary, treasurer, and secretaries for mission education, publicity, LINKS, World Mission, membership, and Prayer and Self-denial. The 10 named officers shall constitute the District NWMS Council. The district superintendent shall be *ex officio* member of the district NWMS council.

The District Executive Committee shall be composed of the president, vice-president, secretary, treasurer, mission education secretary, and publicity secretary. The district superintendent shall be an *ex officio* member of the Executive Committee.

When a District Council in consultation with the district superintendent so desire, an additional officer may be added to the District Council, namely, a Men in Missions secretary. The nomination and election of this officer shall follow the

same procedure specified in Article III, Section 2, for officers other than district presidents.

### SEC. 2. *Election of Officers*

*The District President.* The District Convention shall elect a district president who shall be: (a) elected by two-thirds favorable vote by ballot from two or more nominees presented by a nominating committee, appointed by the District Executive Committee, and chaired by the district superintendent; (b) or in case of reelection, the district president may be reelected by a yes-or-no vote when such vote is recommended by the District NWMS Council with the approval of the district superintendent. The district president shall serve without salary.

*Other Officers.* The other district officers shall be elected by majority vote by ballot by the convention from two nominees presented for each office by a nominating committee appointed by the District Executive Committee.

Or the District Convention may elect a district treasurer and eight others to serve on the District NWMS Council. They shall be elected by majority vote by ballot from nominees submitted by a nominating committee appointed by the District Executive Committee.

The eight council members thus elected, along with the district president and district NWMS treasurer, shall organize, assigning each member responsibilities in accordance with Section 1.

### SEC. 3. *Election of Teen-age Representatives*

The District Convention may elect by ballot one and not more than two teen-age members to the District NWMS Council.

The nominating committee appointed by the District Executive Committee shall nominate twice the number to be elected.

### SEC. 4. *Vacancies*

A vacancy in the district presidency shall be filled by a majority vote of the District NWMS Council, two nominees

having been submitted by the District NWMS Executive Committee in consultation with the district superintendent.

All other vacancies occurring in the District Council between annual conventions shall be filled by majority vote of the District NWMS Council.

#### ARTICLE IV. *Amendments*

This constitution may be amended by a two-thirds vote of all members present and voting at the General Convention of the General Nazarene World Missionary Society and by the approval of the Department of World Mission.

### **811.3. General Nazarene World Missionary Society**

#### ARTICLE I. *Membership*

All district and local Nazarene World Missionary Societies shall constitute the General Nazarene World Missionary Society. It shall be auxiliary to the Department of World Mission.

#### ARTICLE II. *General Convention*

##### SECTION 1. *Time and Place*

There shall be a General Convention of the Nazarene World Missionary Society preceding the General Assembly. The time and place shall be decided upon by the General Council in consultation with the general superintendent advisor and the Department of World Mission.

##### SEC. 2. *Members of General Convention*

1. This convention shall be composed of the following members: members of the General Council; district NWMS presidents; two delegates from each regular or mission district of 1,000 or fewer active NWMS members, and one additional delegate for each additional 700 active members (or final major part thereof), delegates to be elected by ballot by majority vote by the District Convention within 16 months of the General Convention.

There shall also be one delegate from each pioneer or

national-mission district, this delegate to be the district NWMS president; one missionary delegate for each of the first 25 or fewer missionaries from each of the following world areas: (1) Mexico and Central America, (2) Caribbean, (3) South America, (4) Middle East and Europe, (5) Africa, (6) Asia, Orient, and South Pacific; and one additional missionary delegate for the next 50 missionaries or final major fraction thereof, nominated by the mission councils in each area, and elected by the Department of World Mission.

All members of the General Convention shall be members of the Church of the Nazarene at the time of the General Convention.

2. Any elected General Convention delegate must be at the time of the General NWMS Convention residing on the district. If any elected delegate moves off the district, the privilege of representing the former district is forfeited. (Not intended to apply to those living near district boundaries where their home residence may be across the line from the place of regular church participation.)

3. In the event the district president cannot attend the General Convention, the district vice-president (*ex officio*) shall be allowed to represent the district.

4. In the case of world mission districts, General Convention representation shall be governed by the departments of the general church and their respective policies.

### ARTICLE III. *General Council*

#### SECTION 1. *Nomination and Election of the General President*

The general president shall be elected from nominees selected by a nominating committee composed of the General Council zone representatives, the executive director, and one other representative from each geographic zone appointed by the executive committee of the General Council. No two members of the nominating committee may be

from the same district. The executive director shall serve as chairman of the nominating committee.

The committee shall submit the names of two and not more than three persons for general president. The nominations shall be approved by the Board of General Superintendents.

From these nominees the General Convention shall elect by two-thirds majority vote by ballot a general president.

The term of the general president shall be limited to two quadrenniums.

The general president shall be an ex officio member of the General Council, and shall serve without salary.

### SEC. 2. *Election of the General NWMS Council*

The number of members on the General NWMS Council shall be determined by the active NWMS members on the zones on the following basis: one representative for the first 40,000 active NWMS members or less on the zone. When the zone exceeds 40,000 active NWMS members, it shall be entitled to elect two representatives to the General NWMS Council.

A member of the General Council shall be a member of and resident in the zone. If a General Council member has served during three January council meetings, he may remain on the General Council until the next General Convention even though he moves off the represented zone.

No two representatives of one zone shall be from the same district until each district on the zone has one representative.

All council members (except general president and executive director, otherwise provided for) shall be elected by the General Convention by majority vote by ballot.

The term of service of a General Council member shall be limited to two consecutive quadrenniums.

The executive director of the Department of World Mission shall be an ex officio member of the General Council.

### SEC. 3. *Nomination of General Council Members*

Zone representatives on the General Council shall be

nominated by zone caucuses, held at the General Convention, each district on the zone having the privilege of submitting two names from the district to the caucus.

The zone in caucus shall elect by ballot the nominees from the zone (twice the number to be elected). Of the nominees submitted to the General Convention for election, no two shall be from the same district until each district on the zone has one representative.

Caucus nominations shall be approved by the Department of World Mission and the Board of General Superintendents.

#### SEC. 4. *Council Organization*

The council shall elect by two-thirds vote by ballot an executive director, who shall be approved by the Board of General Superintendents. The executive director shall be an ex officio member of the council.

The council shall also elect from its own number a vice-president and two other members, who with the general president and executive director shall constitute the executive committee, three of whom shall constitute a quorum.

Council members shall hold office until the final adjournment of the next quadrennial convention, except as provided for in Section 2, and until their successors are elected and qualified. The council shall assign to its members responsibility for the various emphases and projects.

#### SEC. 5. *The Executive Committee*

The Executive Committee shall:

1. In case of vacancy in the general presidency in the interim between sessions of the Quadrennial Convention, submit the names of two nominees for general president in accordance with Article IV, Section 1, of the General Constitution.
2. Transact any business deemed necessary between sessions of the General Council.

#### SEC. 6. *General Superintendent Adviser*

One general superintendent shall be appointed by the Board of General Superintendents as adviser to the General Council to serve for the quadrennium.

*SEC. 7. General Board Representative*

The General Council shall nominate to the General Assembly two members of the council, one of whom shall be elected by the General Assembly as a member of the General Board of the Church of the Nazarene as a representative of the General Nazarene World Missionary Society.

*SEC. 8. Council Meeting*

The council shall meet annually prior to the meeting of the General Board. Seven shall constitute a quorum. A condensed report of the business transacted in the annual meeting of the council shall be referred to the Department of World Mission for approval.

ARTICLE IV. *Vacancies**SECTION 1. General President*

Should a vacancy occur in the office of general president in the interim between sessions of the Quadrennial Convention, a general president shall be elected from nominees selected by the Executive Committee of the General Council in consultation with the general superintendent adviser by two-thirds vote of all district presidents to fill the vacancy and to perform the duties of general president until adjournment of the next Quadrennial Convention; provided the question of calling for an election to fill the vacancy shall be decided by the General Council in consultation with the general superintendent adviser.

*SEC. 2. Council*

Should a vacancy occur in the council during the quadrennium, the Executive Committee shall present two names as nominees approved by the Department of World Mission and the Board of General Superintendents. The vacancy shall then be filled by majority vote by ballot of the members of the council provided that the question of calling for an election to fill the vacancy is approved by the Department of World Mission and the Board of General Superintendents.

*Sec. 3. Executive Committee*

Should a vacancy occur in the Executive Committee during the quadrennium, two names as nominees from the council shall be presented. The vacancy shall then be filled by a majority vote by ballot of the council.

*ARTICLE V. Amendments*

This constitution may be amended by a two-thirds vote of members present and voting at a General Convention of the General Nazarene World Missionary Society, and by the approval of the Department of World Mission.

## CHAPTER III

**812. BYLAWS OF THE SUNDAY SCHOOL**

## PURPOSE

The purpose of the Sunday school is basically threefold:

1. To teach the Word of God effectively until pupils are saved, sanctified wholly, and maturing in Christian experience.
2. To help Christians grow spiritually by involving them in a reaching, teaching, and soul-winning ministry.
3. To locate and visit unchurched people until they become enrolled and regular in attendance.

*ARTICLE I. Membership*

**SECTION 1.** Membership in the Sunday school of the Church of the Nazarene is open to all who desire the help and association this school offers and who consent to become members under the provision of the *Manual* and these bylaws. There shall be four classes of members; namely, Sunday school, outreach, Cradle Roll, and Home Department. [162]

**SEC. 2.** All persons who declare their willingness to attend with some degree of regularity are eligible for Sunday school membership and may be enrolled at once.

SEC. 3. Sunday school members should be dropped from the roll immediately when they join another Sunday school, move out of town, die, or specifically ask to have their names removed. Members who have ceased to attend but who still live in the community should be removed only after every effort has been made by the teacher, supervisor, superintendent, and pastor to gain their attendance. A nonattending member may be transferred to another class upon recommendation of the supervisor and/or superintendent in the interest of gaining his regular attendance. Nonattending members should be removed only upon approval of the pastor.

SEC. 4. Cradle roll members shall be children under four years of age, enrolled in the Cradle Roll department, who do not attend Sunday school. Cradle Roll members shall be enrolled by the Cradle Roll supervisor or "department visitors." All Cradle Roll members are a part of the total Sunday school enrollment, just as are Home Department members.

All children on the Cradle Roll should be considered as prospects for the Nursery Department. The parents of these children are prospects for the Young Adult Department or class.

Any children on the Cradle Roll who have not started attending Sunday school by their fourth birthday should be transferred to the prospect list of the Kindergarten Department.

Children remain on the Cradle Roll until they come to Sunday school with some regularity. They are then enrolled in a nursery class suitable for their age—nursery crib, nursery one (toddlers), nursery two, or nursery three. When enrolled in the Nursery Department, they are taken off the Cradle Roll and placed on a class roll. They are counted in the Sunday school's enrollment, and in the attendance when they are present.

It is recommended that the Cradle Roll be sponsored as a project by a young married people's Sunday school class, or a young married people's department.

SEC. 5. Home Department members shall be enrolled by the supervisor of the Home Department, or the director of senior adult ministries, who may also be serving as supervisor of the Home Department.

When Home Department members are present in the Sunday school, they should be counted as visitors in the class where they attend.

It is recommended that the Home Department be sponsored by senior adult ministries or as a project of an adult class or department of the Sunday school, in the event there is no Senior Adult Ministries program or officers.

#### ARTICLE II. Attendance

SECTION 1. Sunday school attendance represents the number of different persons studying the Bible at least 30 minutes each week at a time other than the worship service. Attendance counts shall be closed not later than the halfway point of the sessions. This shall apply to unified or special services.

SEC. 2. All regular Sunday school sessions shall be used in determining the average attendance for the year.

The number of sessions used to determine Sunday school average attendance shall also be used to determine outreach average.

Total Accumulative Outreach Attendance	1,785
Total Sunday School Sessions	<u>± 51</u>
Outreach Average Attendance	= 35

SEC. 3. When a group of persons under the supervision of the associate superintendent of outreach or under the Home Department meets regularly each week for not less than one-half hour of Bible study at a time or place other than the regular Sunday school, such a group shall be known as an outreach school.

SEC. 4. When a church sponsors an outreach school, enrollment and attendance of the outreach school are to be credited to the parent Sunday school until the outreach

school becomes an organized church. Records from the outreach school are to be included in the records of the sponsoring school, but shown as a separate item in local and district reports as follows:

Sunday School Attendance	136
Outreach Classes	<u>23</u>
Total	149

Outreach class attendance shall be posted the following Sunday. An outreach class must continue at least eight weeks to be included in the yearly average.

Where two or more churches sponsor the same outreach school, enrollment and attendance figures are to be equally divided among sponsoring churches. An outreach school shall be defined as a group with reasonable expectation of becoming an organized church, or an extension group with more than one class.

### ARTICLE III. *Classes and Departments*

SECTION 1. For the teaching work and certain group activities the Sunday school shall be divided into classes on the basis of school grade or age and other conditions. Each class shall be under the care of a competent teacher suited to the group age.

SEC. 2. For the most effective work a Sunday school should be departmentalized. Even a small school, if there be more than one class for children, will progress more rapidly if there is a department supervisor to correlate the work of the children's classes. As soon as there are two or more classes within a given age-group, e.g., juniors (9 to 11 years), someone should be appointed as the junior supervisor even though a separate worship service for juniors is not possible. A youth supervisor and an adult supervisor should be appointed as soon as there are two or more classes in either of these age-groups. It shall be the duty of the department supervisor, in harmony with the *Manual* and the bylaws of the Sunday school: (a) to attend all cabinet meetings, and to

preside at all meetings of his department workers; (b) with the superintendent to nominate to the board of Christian life and the pastor such teachers as may be needed, and provide such other officers and helpers as may be required for the most efficient work of the department; and (c) to cooperate with the pastor and superintendent in their plans for the general advancement of the school.

SEC. 3. Each Sunday school class above primary age should be organized to carry out Christian service projects and other helpful class activities.

SEC. 4. The division of Christian life will, upon request, furnish full instructions for a plan to departmentalize the Sunday school.

#### ARTICLE IV. *Teachers*

SECTION 1. The teachers of the Sunday school shall be nominated annually by the division superintendents, approved by the board of Christian life, and appointed by the pastor. In the case of schools having departments, the nomination shall be made by the Sunday school division superintendent and the department supervisor of the department in which the teachers are to serve.

SEC. 2. In the case of properly proved unsoundness of doctrine, imprudent conduct, or neglect of duty, the board of Christian life shall have the right to declare the office of any officer or teacher vacant by a two-thirds vote of all members of the board. [157.10]

#### ARTICLE V. *Officers and Their Duties*

SECTION 1. The officers of the Sunday school shall be a superintendent, an associate superintendent of outreach, an assistant superintendent, a secretary, a treasurer, a librarian, department supervisors, and such other officers as may be needed. These shall be elected according to 156-B, 162-63.

SEC. 2. It shall be the duty of the superintendents (a) to administer the affairs of the school according to the provisions of the *Manual* and the bylaws; (b) to counsel with the

supervisors and/or teachers relative to their work; (c) to give a monthly report to the board of Christian life; (d) to cooperate with the District Board of Christian Life and the General Division of Christian Life in the promotion of the Sunday school work.

SEC. 3. It shall be the duty of the associate superintendent of outreach, in cooperation with the pastor and superintendents, to initiate, staff, and supervise outreach classes and schools. These may be home Bible study groups, children's Bible clubs, neighborhood Sunday schools, or other group meetings for Bible study to reach new people who do not ordinarily attend the church.

SEC. 4. It shall be the duty of the secretary (a) to be familiar with the official Nazarene Sunday school record system; (b) to keep an accurate record of the enrollment of the entire school (regular enrollment cards should be used), the record of attendance, absentees, visitors, and such other items as may be required; (c) to keep correct minutes of all meetings of the Sunday school cabinet; (d) and to fill out and forward promptly all statistical and informational blanks requested by the pastor, the District Board of Christian Life, and the General Division of Christian Life.

SEC. 5. It shall be the duty of the treasurer to receive all funds raised by the Sunday school and direct disbursement of the same as directed by the budget and policies laid down by the board of Christian life. He shall keep an accurate account of all finances and make a monthly, detailed report to the cabinet and a quarterly report to the board of Christian life of all receipts, expenditures, and obligations.

In the small school one person may serve as secretary-treasurer.

SEC. 6. It is well to have a librarian, whose duty will be (a) to have charge of all Sunday school literature, books, and periodicals, and direct their proper distribution; (b) to promote and have charge of a workers' library; (c) to create through the school an appreciation of wholesome literature and encourage the reading of the same.

SEC. 7. A music committee with the following duties may be profitable: (a) to have general charge of the music of the school; (b) to see that proper persons are selected to lead the singing and play the musical instruments; (c) to see that proper songbooks are provided for each department; (d) to create throughout the school an appreciation for wholesome music in Christian worship and character building; (e) to organize and promote such ensemble work as may be desirable and helpful.

#### ARTICLE VI. *Administration and Supervision*

SECTION 1. The school is an organic part of the local church, and of the local church educational program. It is under the general supervision of the board of Christian life, the care of the pastor, and the immediate leadership of the Sunday school superintendents.

SEC. 2. Each Sunday school shall have a cabinet in which the administrative and promotional work of the school is vested. This cabinet shall be composed of the division superintendents and the department supervisors, if any, of the Sunday school. In case it shall be deemed preferable by the local church, the members of the board of Christian life and/or the Sunday school teachers may be included in the membership of the Sunday school cabinet. The chairman of the board of Christian life shall convene the cabinet each month after the last Sunday school session.

The cabinet is the goal-setting, program-planning, and problem-solving organization of the Sunday school.

SEC. 3. A Sunday school workers' meeting shall be held each month or week. It may be (a) a general meeting composed of all teachers and officers, (b) a general meeting with department or class meetings following, or (c) a meeting by departments for the full time. In general meetings the superintendent, pastor, or educational director may preside. These meetings shall be planned in advance to provide for devotions, review of progress, study and discussion for improvement, new plans, and general inspiration and fellowship. General policies and needs developing out of these

meetings shall be passed on to the proper executive body for official action and execution.

*d*                    **ARTICLE VII. Conventions**

1. *District Conventions* — All pastors, full-time associates, Sunday school superintendents, chairmen of the boards of Christian life, and department supervisors shall be members of the District Convention *ex officio*. [289]

Each local Sunday school shall elect additional representatives equal to 25 percent of the officers and teachers of the school.

The board of Christian life shall serve as a nominating committee to select at least the number of nominees to be elected.

Nominees shall be chosen from Sunday school officers, teachers, and workers in other Christian life areas such as vacation Bible school, Caravan, children's church, Christian Service Training, Christian family life, Home Department, Cradle Roll, visitation, etc.

In selecting nominees, attention should be given to areas of work to be emphasized in the convention. Efforts should be made to select nominees from teachers in the various age-groups of the Sunday school. All nominees shall be members of the Church of the Nazarene.

Representatives shall be elected by ballot at any regular Sunday school session. Members of the Sunday school of junior high age (12 years) and older shall be eligible to vote. It is provided, however, that the local board of Christian life may serve as the elective body for convention representatives where desired.

Plurality vote shall be sufficient for election. In case elected representatives cannot attend, alternate representatives shall be designated in the order of the votes received.

Interested persons not elected as representatives should be encouraged to attend the convention.

Elected representatives should be given priority in any financial assistance provided by the church.

2. *General Convention* — Members of the Division of

Christian Life, the staff of the Division of Christian Life, all district superintendents, District Boards of Christian Life, district chairmen, and professors of Christian education at our colleges and seminary shall be representatives *ex officio* to the General Convention. [340.4, 341.6, 342.4]

Each district shall elect representatives equal to the number of its District Board of Christian Life or a number equal to 1 percent of the Sunday school officers and teachers on the district, whichever number is larger.

The district superintendent, District Board of Christian Life chairman, and at least three others appointed by them shall constitute a nominating committee who shall select three times the number of nominees to be elected.

Nominees should include the most active Christian life workers on the district—district directors, District Board of Christian Life members, local directors of Christian education, outstanding Sunday school superintendents and teachers.

Persons should not be elected who will serve as delegates to the General Nazarene Youth International Convention or the General Nazarene World Missionary Society Convention. The three conventions run concurrently, and one person cannot effectively represent his district in more than one convention.

Representatives shall be elected by ballot in the District Christian Life Convention within 18 months prior to the General Convention. Fifty percent of the representatives shall be laymen; and 50 percent shall be full-time active minister, elders, or licensed ministers. When the total number is uneven, the extra representative shall be a layman. If no convention is held, representatives shall be elected at the District Assembly.

All representatives present in the District Convention shall be eligible to vote.

A plurality vote shall be sufficient for election.

In case elected representatives cannot attend, alternate representatives shall be designated in the order of the votes received.

Representatives who attend the convention should have financial assistance from the district comparable to expenses provided from the district for Nazarene Youth International and Nazarene World Missionary Society convention delegates.

#### ARTICLE VIII. *Amendments*

These bylaws may be amended by a majority vote of the members present and voting at a General Assembly.



PART XI

# Forms



**THE LOCAL CHURCH  
THE DISTRICT ASSEMBLY  
BILLS OF CHARGES**

# CHAPTER I

## 813. THE LOCAL CHURCH

### 813.1. Recommendation to the District Assembly

The Church Board of the ..... Church of the Nazarene at ..... recommends A ....., B ..... to the ..... District Assembly for \*.....

We certify that ..... has fulfilled all the requirements for such request.

By vote of the Church Board this ..... day of ..... , 19.....

.....  
Chairman

.....  
Secretary

\*Minister's license  
Renewal of minister's license  
Christian education, director's license  
Christian education minister's commission  
Song evangelist's commission  
Song evangelist's registration  
Deaconess' license  
Renewal of deaconess' license  
Consecration as deaconess  
Minister of music commission

NOTE—This form may be used for 10 different recommendations. Fill in the starred (\*) phrase you need.

### 813.2. Certificate of Commendation

This certifies that A ..... B ..... is a member of the Church of the Nazarene at ..... and is hereby commended to the Christian confidence of those to whom this Certificate may be presented.

.....  
Pastor

Date ..... , 19.....

NOTE—When a certificate of commendation is given a person, his membership immediately ceases in the local church issuing the certificate.  
[118.1]

**813.3. Letter of Dismissal**

This certifies that A..... B ..... has been until this date a member of the Church of the Nazarene at..... and, at h..... request, is granted this letter of dismissal.

.....  
Pastor

Date ....., 19 .....

NOTE—Membership terminates immediately upon issuance of a letter of dismissal. [111.4]

**813.4. Transfer of Members**

This certifies that A ..... B ..... is a member in good standing in the Church of the Nazarene at..... and, at h..... request, is hereby transferred to the Church of the Nazarene at ..... in the..... District.

When the reception of this transfer is acknowledged by the receiving local church, membership in this local church will cease.

.....  
Pastor

.....  
Address

Date ....., 19 .....

NOTE—A transfer is valid for three months only. [118]

**813.5. Transfer Acknowledged**

This certifies that A ..... B ..... has been received into membership by the Church of the Nazarene at..... this ..... day of ....., 19 .....

.....  
Pastor

.....  
Address

**813.6. Local Preacher's License**

THIS IS TO CERTIFY that ..... is licensed as a Local Preacher in the Church of the Nazarene for one year, provided that ..... spirit and practice are such as become the gospel of Christ, and that ..... teachings correspond with the established doctrines of the Holy Scriptures as held by said church.

*By Order of the Church Board of the .....*  
Church of the Nazarene.

Done at ....., the ..... day of ....., 19 .....

.....  
Chairman

.....  
Secretary

**813.7. Local Deaconess' License**

THIS IS TO CERTIFY that ..... is licensed as a Local Deaconess in the ..... Church of the Nazarene for one year, provided that her spirit and practice are such as become the gospel of Christ, and that she holds to the established doctrines of the Holy Scriptures as held by said church.

*By Order of the Church Board of the .....*  
Church of the Nazarene.

Done at ....., the ..... day of ....., 19 .....

.....  
Chairman

.....  
Secretary

## CHAPTER II

## 814. THE DISTRICT ASSEMBLY

## 814.1. Ordination

KNOW ALL MEN BY THESE PRESENTS, That, under the protection of Almighty God, and with an eye single to His glory, by prayer and other religious services, ..... has this day been set apart and ordained an Elder in the Church of God, according to the rules of the Church of the Nazarene, ..... being judged worthy and well qualified for that work by the ..... District Assembly, and ..... is hereby recommended to all whom it may concern as a proper person to administer the sacraments and ordinances and to feed the flock of God so long as ..... spirit and practice are such as become the gospel of Christ and ..... continueth to hold fast the form of sound words according to the established doctrines of the gospel.

In Testimony Whereof we have hereunto set our hands and the seal of the Church of the Nazarene, this ..... day of ....., in the year of our Lord, one thousand nine hundred and .....

Done at .....

.....  
General Superintendent

.....  
District Secretary

[404.3]

## 814.2. Certificate of Recognition

KNOW ALL MEN BY THESE PRESENTS, That, under the protection of Almighty God, and with an eye single to His glory, ..... has this day been recognized as an Elder in the Church of God, according to the rules of the Church of the Nazarene, ..... being judged worthy and well qualified for that work by the ..... District Assembly.

and ..... is hereby recommended to all whom it may concern as a proper person to administer the sacraments and ordinances and to feed the flock of God so long as ..... spirit and practice are such as become the gospel of Christ and ..... continueth to hold fast the form of sound words according to the established doctrines of the gospel.

*In Testimony Whereof* we have hereunto set our hands and the seal of the Church of the Nazarene, this ..... day of ....., in the year of our Lord, one thousand nine hundred and .....

Done at .....

.....  
General Superintendent

.....  
District Secretary

[465.]

### 814.3. Deaconess' Certificate

This Is to Certify that ..... has this day been consecrated to the office of Deaconess in the Church of God, according to the rules of the Church of the Nazarene, she being judged worthy and well qualified for that work by the ..... District Assembly, and she is hereby recommended to all whom it may concern as a proper person to do the work of a Deaconess so long as her spirit and practice are such as become the gospel of Christ and she continueth to hold fast the form of sound faith according to the established doctrines of the gospel.

*In Testimony Whereof* we have hereunto set our hands and the seal of the Church of the Nazarene this ..... day of ....., in the year of our Lord, one thousand nine hundred and .....

Done at .....

.....  
General Superintendent

.....  
District Secretary

[467.3]

### 814.4. Minister's License

THIS IS TO CERTIFY that ..... is made a Licensed Minister of the gospel in the Church of the Nazarene for one year, provided that ..... spirit and practice are such as become the gospel of Christ, and that ..... ministry corresponds with the established doctrines of the Holy Scriptures as held by said church.

By Order of ..... District Assembly of the Church of the Nazarene.

Done at ....., the ..... day of ....., 19.....

.....  
General Superintendent

.....  
District Secretary

[403.4]

### 814.5. Deaconess' License

THIS IS TO CERTIFY that ..... is made a Licensed Deaconess in the Church of the Nazarene for one year, provided that her spirit and practice are such as become the gospel of Christ, and that she holds to the established doctrines of the Holy Scriptures as held by said church.

By Order of ..... District Assembly of the Church of the Nazarene.

Done at ....., the ..... day of ....., 19.....

.....  
General Superintendent

.....  
District Secretary

[403.5]

### 814.6. Evangelist's Commission

THIS IS TO CERTIFY that ..... is commissioned as an Evangelist in the Church of the Nazarene, by action of the ..... District Assembly.

This commission is for one year from date.

Done at \_\_\_\_\_, the \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 19 \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
General Superintendent

\_\_\_\_\_  
District Secretary

[410.4]

### 814.7. Registered Evangelist

THIS IS TO CERTIFY that \_\_\_\_\_ is a registered Evangelist in the Church of the Nazarene, by action of the \_\_\_\_\_ District Assembly.

This certification is for one year from date.

Done at \_\_\_\_\_, the \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 19 \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
General Superintendent

\_\_\_\_\_  
District Secretary

[410.5]

### 814.8. Song Evangelist's Commission

THIS IS TO CERTIFY that \_\_\_\_\_ is commissioned as a Song Evangelist in the Church of the Nazarene, by action of the \_\_\_\_\_ District Assembly.

This certification is for one year from date.

Done at \_\_\_\_\_, the \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 19 \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
General Superintendent

\_\_\_\_\_  
District Secretary

[412.4]

### 814.9. Registered Song Evangelist

THIS IS TO CERTIFY that ..... is registered as a Song Evangelist in the Church of the Nazarene, having been registered by the ..... District Assembly.

This certification is for one year from date.

Done at ....., the ..... day of ....., 19.....

.....  
General Superintendent

.....  
District Secretary

[814.4]

### 814.10. Minister of Music—Commission

THIS IS TO CERTIFY that ..... is commissioned as a Minister of Music in the Church of the Nazarene, by action of the ..... District Assembly.

This certification is for one year from date.

Done at ....., the ..... day of ....., 19.....

.....  
General Superintendent

.....  
District Secretary

[414.2]

### 814.11. Minister of Christian Education Commission

Being judged worthy and well qualified for the work of Minister of Christian Education in the Church of the Nazarene, ..... is commissioned to that service and practice so long as ..... work and spirit correspond with the established doctrines of the Holy Scriptures as held by said church.

By Order of ..... District Assembly of the Church of the Nazarene.

Done at \_\_\_\_\_, the \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 19\_\_\_\_\_

.....  
General Superintendent

.....  
District Secretary

[411.6]

### 814.12. Director of Christian Education License

THIS IS TO CERTIFY that \_\_\_\_\_ is licensed as a Director of Christian Education in the Church of the Nazarene for one year, provided that \_\_\_\_\_ service and practice correspond with the established doctrines of the Holy Scriptures as held by said church.

By Order of \_\_\_\_\_ District Assembly of the Church of the Nazarene.

Done at \_\_\_\_\_, the \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 19\_\_\_\_\_

.....  
General Superintendent

.....  
District Secretary

[411.3]

### 814.13. Transfer by District

#### DISTRICT TRANSFER

To the President of \_\_\_\_\_ District Assembly:

THIS IS TO CERTIFY that \_\_\_\_\_  
name

( ) Elder—year of ordination ..; ( ) Licensed Minister; ( ) Deaconess, is in good standing on our district and having requested a transfer is hereby recommended and transferred subject to the action of your District Assembly.

(Use appropriate form below.)

By Order of the \_\_\_\_\_ District Advisory Board

ON \_\_\_\_\_

Date

.....  
District Superintendent

.....  
District Secretary

.....  
District Address

By Order of the ..... District Assembly on

.....  
Date

.....  
General Superintendent

.....  
District Secretary

.....  
Address

[201.7, 406.1]

**ACKNOWLEDGMENT OF RECEPTION OF TRANSFER**

..... has been received by our District Assembly in session on the date below.

..... District Assembly

.....  
Date of Reception

.....  
District Secretary

[201.6, 405.2]

NOTE—The district secretary shall notify the issuing district secretary of the reception of this transfer. This transfer is valid until the close of the next District Assembly to which addressed.

NOTE—The transfer of a licensed minister or a licensed deaconess shall be valid only when accompanied by a detailed record of his or her grades in the course of study, properly certified by the secretary of the District Board of Ministerial Studies of the issuing District Assembly.

**814.14. Certificate of Commendation for Minister**

To the President of .....

.....  
Denomination

Church:

This is to Certify that ..... is:

.....  
Name

- ( ) An Elder—year of ordination .....
- ( ) Licensed Minister

in good standing on the ..... District, Church of the Nazarene, and having requested a Minister's Certificate of Commendation, is hereby commended to the Christian confidence of those to whom this certificate may be presented.

With the granting of this Certificate, membership in the Church of the Nazarene ceases and the name of ..... is removed from the Roll of Ministers on the ..... District, Church of the Nazarene.

(1) *By Order of the* ..... District Advisory Board of the Church of the Nazarene on .....

Date

.....  
District Superintendent

.....  
District Secretary

.....  
District Address

(2) *By Order of the* ..... District Assembly of the Church of the Nazarene, on .....

Date

.....  
General Superintendent

.....  
District Secretary

.....  
District Address

## CHAPTER III

**815. BILLS OF CHARGES****Section 1. In Trial of a Church Member****Sec. 2. In Trial of an Elder****Sec. 3. In Trial of a Licensed Minister**

*Bills of Charges can be secured from the General Secretary, 6401 The Paseo, Kansas City, Mo. 64131.*

PART XII

# Appendix



**GENERAL OFFICERS**

**ADMINISTRATIVE BOARDS AND  
COMMITTEES**

**ADMINISTRATIVE POLICIES**

**INTERPRETATIONS OF CHURCH LAW**

**CURRENT MORAL AND SOCIAL ISSUES**

## CHAPTER I

### 900. GENERAL OFFICERS

#### 900.1. General Superintendents

V. H. Lewis	Orcille W. Jenkins
George Coulter	Charles H. Strickland
Eugene L. Stone	William M. Greathouse

#### General Superintendents Retired and Emeritus

- D. I. Vanderpool, Emeritus
- G. B. Williamson, Emeritus
- Edmund Lawlor, Retired
- Samuel Young, Emeritus

#### 900.2. General Secretary

B. Edgar Johnson

#### 900.3. General Treasurer

Norman O. Miller

#### 900.4. Editor, "Herald of Holiness"

William K. McCumber

INTERNATIONAL HOUSEhold  
640 The Paseo  
Kansas City, Mo. 64111

## CHAPTER II

### 901. ADMINISTRATIVE BOARDS AND COMMITTEES

#### 901.1. General Board

## MEMBERS BY CHURCH ZONES

(1) *Canadian Zone*

Neil Hightower

Robert Collier

(2) *Central Zone*

George Scutt

Bill Draper

Vernon Lunn

Gerald D. Oliver

(3) *East Central Zone*

M. E. Clay

Gordon Wetmore

E. H. Steenbergen

Dallas Moore

(4) *Eastern Zone*

Gene Fuller

Morris Wilson

Robert Wilfang

Merritt Mann

(5) *North Central Zone*

Norman Bloom

Paul Cunningham

Howard Hamlin

Blaine D. Proffitt

(6) *Northwest Zone*

M. Harold Daniels

W. Donald Wellman

Gordon T. Olsen

J. Robert Mangum

(7) *South Central Zone*

Raymond McClung

Ponder Gilliland

Dudley Powers

Lloyd G. McArthur

(8) *Southeast Zone*

H. Harvey Hendershot

Jack Stone

Homer Adams

Ralph W. Marlowe

(9) *Southwest Zone*

Robert H. Scott

Ross W. Hayslip

Bob Smee

Dick Willis

(10) *Intercontinental Zone I*

Richard Zanner

E. V. Dlamini

(11) *Intercontinental Zone II*

Makoto Oye

Ivan Small

(12) *Intercontinental Zone III*

Juan Madrid

Grey Forde

(13) *Education*

Mark R. Moore

Willis Snowbarger

(14) *Nazarene World Missionary Society*

Mrs. L. S. Oliver

(15) *Nazarene Youth International*

Holland Lewis

**901.2. General Court of Appeals**

W. Shelburne Brown

Earl Lee



Mrs. Howard Hamlin, North Central Zone  
 Mrs. Moody Gunter, Southeast Zone  
 Mrs. Thomas Hermon, South Central Zone  
 Mrs. James Shaw, Southwest Zone  
 Mr. Eddie Gray, Northwest Zone

### **901.5 Nazarene Theological Seminary Trustees**

Paul Mangum, Eastern Zone  
 George Scott, Central Zone  
 Thomas Hermon, South Central Zone  
 Harold Morris, Southwest Zone  
 Jack Lee, Southeast Zone  
 Jack Sanders, East Central Zone  
 Norman Bloom, North Central Zone  
 Carl Clendenen, Northwest Zone  
 Neil E. Hightower, Canadian Zone  
 W. Donald Wellman, Elder-at-large  
 Millard Reed, Elder-at-large  
 Paul Cunningham, Elder-at-large  
 George Reed, Layman-at-large  
 F. L. (Bud) Smece, Layman-at-large  
 Willis Brown, Layman-at-large

### **901.6. Nazarene Bible College Trustees**

Robert Goslaw, Eastern Zone  
 Forrest Nash, Central Zone  
 W. M. Lynch, South Central Zone  
 Robert Scott, Southwest Zone  
 J. T. Cassetti, Southeast Zone  
 Jack Sanders, East Central Zone  
 Marselle Knight, North Central Zone  
 Grady Cantrell, Northwest Zone  
 Clarence Jacobs, Elder, East Central Zone  
 Ross W. Hayslip, Elder, Southwest Zone  
 Frank Watkin, Elder, North Central Zone  
 H. B. London, Elder, Northwest Zone

Vernon Lunn, Layman, Central Zone

Lloyd G. McArthur, Layman, South Central Zone

Ralph W. Markowe, Layman, Southeast Zone

E. H. Steenbergen, Layman, Eastern Zone

## CHAPTER III

### 902. ADMINISTRATIVE POLICIES

#### 902.1. Parliamentary Procedure

We recommend the adoption of *Robert's Rules of Order* when no definite method of parliamentary procedure is indicated in the *Manual*. [1968]

#### 902.2. Annuities

The General Board and institutions of the church are prohibited from using annuity gifts until such have become their valid property by the death of the annuitant, and that such gifts are to be carefully invested in funds usually accepted as trust funds by the courts of the land. [1968]

#### 902.3. Debt

No institution may incur any debt on the strength of pledges, and pledges are not to be counted as assets. [1968]

#### 902.4. Bible Societies

##### (1) *Approved Bible Societies*

The Church of the Nazarene places special emphasis upon the Bible as the written revelation of God, and we believe that it is the only effective agency to win new followers to Jesus Christ, and because there is an increasing need for more copies of the Scripture; therefore be it

*Resolved*, First, That the General Assembly express its hearty approval of and sympathy with the work of the United Bible Societies around the world.

Second, That we endorse the observance of Universal Bible Sunday, directing attention on this day to the essential place the Scriptures should occupy in the lives of Christian people.

Third, That the General Assembly authorize its general secretary, or an alternate whom he may appoint, to attend during the ensuing quadrennium each annual session of the Advisory Council of the American Bible Society held in December at Bible House in New York City.

### (2) *Offering for Bible Societies*

*Resolved*, That the Church of the Nazarene designate the second Sunday of December of each year as a special time for the presentation of this important matter and the taking of an offering for the American Bible Society in the United States, and the respective Bible Societies in Canada and the British Isles; also that a special effort be made to have all of our churches take part in such an offering. [1968]

NOTE: It is understood that our churches in Scotland send their contributions to the National Bible Society in Scotland; the churches in England, to the British and Foreign Bible Society; and the churches of Canada, to the Canadian Bible Society. The churches of the United States forward contributions to our denominational Headquarters, 6401 The Plaza, Kansas City, Mo. 64131, U.S.A., for the support of the American Bible Society.

### 902.5. *Athletics*

The schools and colleges of the Church of the Nazarene shall be bound by such regulations regarding intercollegiate activities as shall be recommended by the Department of Education and the Ministry and adopted by the General Board. [1976]

### 902.6. *Dramatics*

*WHEREAS*, There is danger in the excessive use of dramatic productions in our schools and colleges; be it *Resolved*, That this practice be carefully restricted and greater emphasis be placed on the spiritual exercise that leads to sound Christian experience. [1968]

### 902.7. Trustees of Nazarene Colleges

We request our college boards of control to revise their constitution and bylaws as soon as possible so as to equalize their membership between ministers and laymen. [1968]

### 902.8. Use of Church Buildings

This General Assembly goes on record as being opposed to the use of any part of our church sanctuaries for recreational and entertainment purposes. [1968]

### 902.9. "Manual" Editing Resolution

Be it *Resolved*, That the members of the *Manual* Editing Committee appointed by the Board of General Superintendents be and they are hereby constituted the *Manual* Editing Committee; and be it further

*Resolved*, That the *Manual* Editing Committee be and they are hereby authorized to harmonize conflicting statements which may appear in the record of the actions of the Nineteenth General Assembly in regard to changes in the *Manual*; and also to make such editorial changes in the text of the present *Manual* as will correct the language without altering the meaning; also to make such editorial changes in the copy of the newly adopted matter as may serve to correct the language without altering the meaning.

The *Manual* Editing Committee is hereby further authorized to substitute plainly understood words or expressions for confusing words or expressions, to revise the numbering of chapters, paragraphs, sections, and other divisions of the *Manual* in harmony with any actions adopted by the Nineteenth General Assembly, and also to prepare the index in harmony with any actions adopted by the Nineteenth General Assembly.

Further resolved that the supervision of all translations of the *Manual* shall be a duty of the *Manual* Editing Committee. [1976]

### 902.10. "Manual" Appendix Review

Any item remaining in Chapters III and V of the Appendix for three quadrennia (12 years) without reconsideration shall be referred by the Committee on Reference to the proper committee of the General Assembly for the same consideration as a resolution to the General Assembly. [1978]

### 902.11. Tenure of Committees

Resolved, that any special committee created for any purpose, unless specified otherwise, will cease to exist at the following General Assembly. [1968]

### 902.12. General Assembly Business

(From the 1976 *Delegate's Handbook*)

#### RESOLUTIONS AND PETITIONS

**Rule 26. Presentation.** District Assemblies, a committee authorized by the District Assembly, the General Board or any of its recognized departments; official boards, or commissions of the general church, or five members or more of the General Assembly may present resolutions and petitions for the consideration of the General Assembly in accordance with the following rules:

a. Resolutions and petitions shall be presented in triplicate and typewritten on the official form furnished by the General Secretary.

b. Each resolution or petition presented will include the subject and the name of delegates or group making the presentation.

c. They shall be presented to the General Secretary at least 90 days prior to the convening of the Assembly to be numbered and sent to the Reference Committee in order that they may be printed in the *Delegate's Handbook*.

**Rule 27. Resolutions and Petitions for Late Reference.** With the consent of the Assembly, resolutions, petitions, and

other items for consideration by the Assembly may be presented to the General Secretary for reference to a legislative committee no later than 5 p.m. on the second day of business.

**Rule 28. Proposals for "Manual" Changes.** Proposals for changes in the church *Manual* must be presented in writing and shall give paragraph and section of *Manual* to be affected and the text of the change should it be adopted. These shall be referred to committees in accordance with Rule 35. These committees shall consider such proposals and report their recommendations to the General Assembly. If adopted, the proposals shall be submitted to the *Manual* Editing Committee to be harmonized with other *Manual* provisions.

### 902.13. Quintennium

Resolved that the Nineteenth General Assembly of the Church of the Nazarene order a quintennium to begin following the 1980 General Assembly, and that the next General Assembly would then be held in 1985 and return to quadrennial assemblies with the following assembly held in 1989. [302] [1976]

**902.14.** Resolved That all general superintendents elected in 1980 serve a five-year term in the period from 1980 to 1985;

*Further Resolved* that all general superintendents elected in 1976 who would normally be eligible to be reelected in 1984, be eligible for reelection in 1985, and

*Further Resolved* that all general superintendents be subject to the 1972 *Manual* requirements for reelection as related to the 1989 General Assembly and each succeeding General Assembly thereafter. [1976]

### 902.15. Restrictions on Membership General Church Boards

*Resolved* That no person shall serve on more than one of

the following boards: General Board, Nazarene Theological Seminary Trustees, Nazarene Bible College Trustees. [1976]

## CHAPTER IV

### 903. INTERPRETATION OF CHURCH LAW

#### Judiciary Actions

**903.1.** Has the District Advisory Board the right to transfer a member of the District Assembly to another denomination?

*Ans.* The District Advisory Board has no authority to transfer a member of the District Assembly to another denomination; however, the District Advisory Board may issue a Certificate of Commendation as provided in *Manual* Paragraph 814.14. [1976]

**903.2.** (a) Does a district superintendent have the right to give his written approval to the sale of church property without the consent of the District Advisory Board?

(b) Does he need the consent of the District Advisory Board?

*Ans.* (a) The district superintendent does have the right to give his written approval of the sale of church property without the approval of the District Advisory Board.

(b) He does not need the consent of the District Advisory Board.

**903.3.** Relating to Special Rule 31.3, "membership in oath-bound secret orders or fraternities."

(a) Does this mean that the Church of the Nazarene will not permit its members to hold their former insurance in this class of orders, provided that the fees are paid for this purpose only and there is no fellowship with the organization?

(b) Does a church have the right to maintain the membership of a person when he holds membership in a secret order solely for the purpose of keeping his insurance while it

bars from membership other persons because they are members of the same order?

*Ans.* (a) (b) According to 33.3 of our *Manual* one cannot be a member of the Church of the Nazarene while holding membership in an oath-bound secret order.

**903.4.** Special Rule 33.5 relating to "using of tobacco in any of its forms, or the trafficking therein."

Does this prohibit church membership in the Church of the Nazarene to a person who is employed in a store, either as clerk or manager, where among other things he is obliged to sell tobacco?

*Ans.* There is a distinction between trafficking as the owner of a business and selling as a clerk and, therefore, we would not interpret the selling as a clerk as violating the letter of the *Manual*.

**903.5.** At a church meeting called for the purpose of voting on the recall of a pastor, is it legal to count the votes of members not present at the time of such voting?

*Ans.* It would be illegal to count the votes of members not present when voting on the recall of a pastor.

**903.6.** If a licensed minister meets all the requirements for the renewal of his license according to 403.2, is the District Assembly obliged to renew such license?

*Ans.* A District Assembly is not under obligation according to 403.2 to renew said license.

**903.7.** A church has a debt on its property. It elects a finance committee of three who are members of the church board with instructions to receive and disburse all money which applies to the church debt. Has the church the right to make this committee custodian of that part of the church funds and to receive and disburse the same independent of the regularly elected church treasurer?

*Ans.* The church does have such a right.

**903.8.** A pastor resigns. The district superintendent calls the church board together to consider the appointment of a man to fill the vacancy until the next District Assembly. He

finds that the church board had previously held a meeting and elected a man for the pastorate for the remainder of the District Assembly year, and also had called him for the year following. Is the church acting within its rights?

*Ans.* The church is not acting within its rights.

**903.9.** In case a district superintendent and pastor fail to investigate charges filed against a minister in their assembly district as directed in 502 of the *Manual*, does this incriminate the district superintendent or the pastor for failure to make this investigation?

*Ans.* A district superintendent would be incriminated if he failed to investigate written accusations against a minister in his assembly district. The fact of his amenability to his District Assembly is evidence that he will be subject to charges for failing to discharge his official duty. [1928]

**903.10.** Clarify the status of an elder who may be dropped from the local membership roll on account of absence of over a six-month period, which is unsatisfactorily explained, and the nonsupport of the church during this period. If a local church drops his name from the roll, what is his assembly relationship?

*Ans.* It is the opinion of the Committee on Judiciary that the dropping of an elder from the church roll of which he is a member, under the conditions mentioned cannot affect his status as a member of his assembly district, but does place responsibility on such elder to comply with *Manual* Paragraph 404.4. [1976]

## CHAPTER V

### 904. CURRENT MORAL AND SOCIAL ISSUES

#### 904.1. Prayer and Bible in Schools and Local, State, and Federal Governments of the United States of America

The Church of the Nazarene recognizes that the founders of the United States of America were very conscious of the law of God and those Christian principles that may be found in the Holy Scriptures as a basis for a just and enduring civil government.

As a consequence the nation has given reverent recognition and honor to God in many ways throughout its history. The First Amendment of the Constitution states that "Congress shall make no law respecting an establishment of religion or prohibiting the free exercise thereof." The free exercise of prayer and Bible reading were not considered to be in opposition to the Constitution.

However, since certain atheistic, secular, or even some religious forces have set about to destroy the time-tested fabric of this national life, the Church of the Nazarene firmly resolves to support:

(1) All present references to God found on the national currency and the pledge of allegiance and other reverent usage,

(2) The present system of chaplaincy in federal, state, and local governments,

(3) Voluntary prayer and Bible reading in any public, government or private institutions,

(4) The traditional practice of public school baccalaureate, and

(5) Prayer and other religious observances by public and civic organizations. [1976]

## 904.2. War and Military Service

We believe that the ideal world condition is that of peace and that it is the full obligation of the Christian Church to use its influence to seek such means as will enable the nations of the earth to be at peace and to devote all of its agencies for the propagation of the message of peace.

However, we realize that we are living in a world where evil forces and philosophies are actively in conflict with these Christian ideals and that there may arise such international

emergencies as will require a nation to resort to war in defense of its ideals, its freedom, and its existence.

While thus committed to the cause of peace, the Church of the Nazarene recognizes that the supreme allegiance of the Christian is due to God, and therefore it does not endeavor to bind the conscience of its members relative to participation in military service in case of war, although it does believe that the individual Christian as a citizen is bound to give service to his own nation in all ways that are compatible with the Christian faith and the Christian way of life.

We also recognize that, as an outgrowth of the Christian teaching and of the Christian desire for peace on earth, there are among our membership individuals who have conscientious objection to certain forms of military service. Therefore the Church of the Nazarene claims for conscientious objectors within its membership the same exemptions and considerations regarding military service as are accorded members of recognized noncombatant religious organizations.

The Church of the Nazarene, through its general secretary, shall set up a register whereon those persons who supply evidence of being members of the Church of the Nazarene may record their convictions as conscientious objectors.  
[1968]

### **904.3. Race and Discrimination**

We, the members of the Seventeenth General Assembly of the Church of the Nazarene, wish to reiterate our historic stand of Christian compassion for men of all races. We believe that God is the Creator of all men, and that of one blood are all men created.

We believe that each individual, regardless of race, color, or creed, should have equality before law, including the right to vote, equal access to educational opportunities, and to all public facilities, and to the equal opportunity, according to one's ability, to earn a living free from any job or economic discrimination.

We urge our churches everywhere to continue and strengthen programs of education to promote racial understanding and harmony. We also feel that the scriptural admonition "Follow peace with all men" (Hebrews 12:14), should guide the actions of our people. We urge that each member of the Church of the Nazarene humbly examine his personal attitudes and actions toward other races, as a first step in achieving the Christian goal of full participation by all in the life of the church and the entire community.

We reemphasize our belief that holiness of heart and life is the basis for right living. We believe that complete understanding between racial groups will come when the hearts of men have been changed by complete submission to Jesus Christ, and that the essence of true Christianity consists in loving God with one's heart, soul, mind, and strength, and one's neighbor as oneself. [1968]

#### **904.4. Tobacco and Its Effects on Health and Morals**

In view of our historic stand on the use of tobacco and its attendant evils; and

WHEREAS, Medical evidence documented by the American Medical Association, the American Cancer Society, the Federal Trade Commission, the Department of Health, Education, and Welfare, and other associations throughout the world, have condemned its use as a health hazard, and have shown conclusively that its use may produce and result in changes in normal bodily physiology, both serious and permanent; and

WHEREAS, We are admonished to maintain our bodies as the temple of the Holy Ghost; and

WHEREAS, We are concerned about the protection of our youth against any enemy of health and morals; and

WHEREAS, These organizations and agencies have condemned the use of tobacco; and

WHEREAS, The Federal Trade Commission has ordered the

placing of warning of the health hazard on each package of cigarettes; and

WHEREAS, The American Cancer Society has conducted a concerted campaign against smoking, be it

*Resolved*, That the Church of the Nazarene encourage these agencies and organizations in a stand thus taken, and send to each a statement of our support. [1968]

### 904.5. Separation of Church and State

We, the Eighteenth General Assembly of the Church of the Nazarene, desiring to reaffirm our continuing concern that our great Protestant heritage be understood and safeguarded, remind our people that both our political and religious freedom rest upon biblical concepts of the dignity of man as God's creation and the sanctity of his individual conscience. We encourage our people to participate in political activity in support of these historic concepts and to be ever vigilant against threats to our precious freedom.

We recognize that, in the United States, separation of church and state is a tradition which has implemented these principles at the national, state, and local levels. Believing that our precious freedoms are constantly in danger, we urge election of men to public office at all levels of government who believe in these principles and who are answerable only to God and the constituency which elected them when carrying out a public trust. Further, we resist any invasion of these principles by religious groups seeking special favors.

We believe that the role of the Church is to be prophetic and constantly to remind the people that "righteousness exalteth a nation." [1972]

### 904.6. Modern or Folk Dancing

*Resolved*, That we go on record as being opposed to modern or folk dancing, in either ballrooms or other places, even under the guise of physical education classes. [1968]

### 904.7. Magazines, Radio, and Television

Since we are living in a day of great moral confusion in which we face the potential encroachment of the evils of the day into the sacred precincts of our homes through various avenues such as current literature, radio, and the most modern medium of television, it is essential that the most rigid safeguards be observed to keep our homes from becoming secularized and worldly.

While we recognize these agencies are of great value in the propagation of the gospel and the salvation of souls, we do deplore the low moral tone of much current literature, comic magazines, articles and pictures of some magazines, and the contents of many books.

We do likewise deplore the sensual appeal of many radio and television programs. We believe it to be detrimental to the welfare of our homes to listen to or view programs of the Hollywood type of movies or shows of the vaudeville level. We therefore call upon our leaders and pastors to give strong emphasis in our periodicals and from our pulpits to such fundamental truths as will develop the principle of discrimination between the evil and the good to be found in these mediums.

We suggest that the standard given to John Wesley by his mother, namely, "Whatever weakens your reason, impairs the tenderness of your conscience, obscures your sense of God, or takes off the relish of spiritual things, whatever increases the authority of your body over mind, that thing for you is sin," form the basis for this teaching of discrimination.

We especially recommend that the reading, listening, and viewing on the Sabbath day be consistent with our high standards of holiness, and that we do not allow any television program to become a substitute for church attendance.  
[1968]

### 904.8. Public Swimming

*Resolved*, That our people exercise Christian judgement in

the matter of swimming in public places in the same manner that we urge them to exercise modesty in the matter of dress. [1968]

### 904.9. Pornography

Realizing that sales of pornography are increasing throughout the world due especially to promotion of such by organized crime, and that pornographic materials degrade the human, violate the commandments of God, and corrupt the family, the Church of the Nazarene resolves actively to oppose pornography in all its forms by all means possible. [1972]

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