

# 2018

Items Adopted  
by the  
International General  
Assembly

FINISH  
*in the Spirit and Power of*  
PENTECOST

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CHURCH OF GOD 77<sup>TH</sup> INTERNATIONAL  
GENERAL  ASSEMBLY

## I. ELECTION – Council of Eighteen

1. Mark Lanier Williams
2. Gary Joseph Lewis
3. H. Loran Livingston
4. Ishmael Prince Charles
5. Kevin Miles McGlamery
6. Sean Stewart O’Neal
7. Gerald E. McGinnis
8. Timothy Wayne Oldfield
9. Timothy Bryan Cutshall
10. Travis Christian Johnson
11. Eliezer Bonilla, Sr.
12. Thomas Andrew Madden
13. Niko Njotorahardjo
14. Barry Anthony Clardy
15. Keith Lamar Ivester
16. Jerry D. Madden
17. Thornwell Wayne Dority
18. Terry Robert Hart

## II. RECOMMENDATIONS

### 1. RESOLUTION: VISIONAL ACTUALIZATION

*WHEREAS, we have been challenged with the vision to FINISH the Great Commission; and*

*WHEREAS, the accomplishment of this task will require the concerted effort and resources of the body of Christ; and*

*WHEREAS, this task will necessitate us to reimagine, retool, and revise methods, strategies, and programs to be effective, efficient, and relevant;*

*BE IT THEREFORE RESOLVED that the general overseer, in consultation with the other members of the Executive Committee, appoint a Task Force on Visional Actualization, that is representative of the church (to include ministers and laity, men and women, and be ethnically diverse); and*

*BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that this Task Force specifically focus on the following areas and prepare recommendations for the Executive Council to consider for implementation and, as necessary, inclusion on the International General Council agenda for 2020:*

- a. *Evaluation of the departments and ministries of the International Offices to determine the value added to local churches and to develop an instrument for state/regional offices to evaluate the value their programs and ministries are adding to the local church;*
  - b. *Assessment of the budget of the International Offices to determine the funding priorities supporting the core values of the church and finishing the Great Commission;*
  - c. *Review of the systems (including elections and appointments) and programs of the church considering multinational and multigenerational culture, including language-specific resources, cultural variants, etc.;*
  - d. *Appraisal of the church planting and church revitalization efforts and funding with a goal to enlarge and enhance the effectiveness of these priorities;*
  - e. *Analysis of the need for and promotion of ministerial recruitment, development, and placement in the Western USA, and other areas;*
  - f. *Refine, expand, and promote the current affiliation and amalgamation opportunities and procedures;*
  - g. *Devise policy guidelines for multisite campuses; and*
- BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED that a report of this Task Force's work be prepared and made available to the 2020 International General Council.*

## **2. Actualization of a Global Context of Ministry**

**That we amend page 69, S5. International Executive Council, III. Duties and Authorities, by adding the following as item 15:**

*15. The International Executive Council is tasked with the responsibility of actualizing a global context of ministry to include, but not limited to, enhancing the availability of language-specific resources; recognition and utilization of international leaders during general church events, refining programs, methods, and systems to reflect the international nature of the church; and challenging the church to think globally.*

## **3. Church Planting and Revitalization Task Force**

**That we amend page 132, S39. EVANGELISM PROGRAM, by inserting the following as the first paragraph:**

*Each state/region establish a Church Planting and Revitalization Task Force and Training Center for the purpose of assessing, coaching, training, and sending church planters, as well as assisting senior pastors to revitalize and grow local congregations, thereby fulfilling the vision and commitment of the Church of God.*

#### 4. RESOLUTION: DOCTRINAL AFFIRMATION

*WHEREAS, the Church of God globally stands for the whole Bible rightly divided, and for the New Testament as the only rule of faith and practice; and*

*WHEREAS, the Declaration of Faith and Doctrinal Commitments remain the definitive statements of our beliefs; and*

*WHEREAS, we are living in a world that is constantly changing, and the calls to adapt our beliefs to prevailing societal norms or personal experiences are becoming more frequent;*

*BE IT THEREFORE RESOLVED that we reaffirm our commitment to our core beliefs and values as stated in the latest edition of the International General Assembly Minutes; and*

*BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that we emphasize and communicate the distinctives of sanctification subsequent to the new birth, and the Baptism of the Holy Ghost subsequent to a clean heart.*

*BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that we intentionally teach and proclaim our belief in the Pentecostal distinctive of speaking in other tongues as the initial evidence of the baptism of the Holy Spirit and living a Spirit-empowered life; and*

*BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that our ministers prayerfully reaffirm their commitment to and belief in these doctrinal statements; and*

*BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that we continually seek to address current social issues in love, considering Biblical standards and not prevailing societal views; and*

*BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that to ensure generational continuity, we instruct our youth in these doctrinal beliefs; and*

*BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED that this resolution be placed in the Minutes following the Doctrinal Commitments.*

#### 5. RESOLUTION: STRUCTURAL ACCLIMATION

*WHEREAS, while the Church of God has a structure with certain distinctives to our movement that has served us well throughout our history, at times it is necessary to refocus, retool, and recalibrate to accelerate our harvest goals; and*

*WHEREAS, the ministries of our movement have been supported by the tithing and giving of our faithful constituents; and*

*WHEREAS, throughout our history our ministers and churches have reported the progress of their ministry to their respective offices; and*

*WHEREAS, there is a need for elections and appointments to reflect the multicultural diversity of our movement; and*

*WHEREAS, enhanced preparation and effectiveness of state/regional leaders will provide more effective ministry and administrative success so that focused appointments can provide for greater missional impact;*

*THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that this 77<sup>th</sup> International General Council give attention to consistency in tithing and reporting by ministers and churches; and  
BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that careful consideration be made of our voting and appointment processes to assure that they reflect our multicultural diversity and enhance our missional impact; and  
BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that consideration be given to the State Youth and Discipleship Director's length of tenure; and  
BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a Task Force be appointed to study considerations for greater global missional impact in the Church of God; and  
BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED that we consider the measures presented to this 77<sup>th</sup> International General Council for key and critical matters associated with structural acclimation with a sense of Kingdom urgency so our movement can accelerate our harvest goals spiritually, missionally, and administratively in order to FINISH the Great Commission.*

## 6. International Executive Council and General Overseer Duties

**A. That page 68, S5. INTERNATIONAL EXECUTIVE COUNCIL, III. Duties and Authorities, Item 8, be amended by striking the word “~~shall~~” and inserting the words “*be authorized to.*”**

So as to read:

The general overseer, with the International Executive Council, ***be authorized to*** give one of his assistants the World Missions portfolio and assign his duties and authorities

**B. That page 73, S7. GENERAL OVERSEER, II. Duties and Authorities, Item 5, be amended by inserting the words “*be authorized to*” before the word “give.”**

So as to read:

Together with the International Executive Council, ***be authorized to*** give one of his assistants the World Missions portfolio and assign his duties and authorities

## 7. Tenure of State Youth and Discipleship Director: Part 1

**That page 132, S37. STATE YOUTH AND DISCIPLESHIP DIRECTOR, I. Selection, Item 2 be amended by striking “~~eight~~” and inserting “*four*”**

So as to read:

The state Youth and Discipleship director's term of office shall be for two years with a maximum of four consecutive years in a respective non-mission state. [Effective 2020 General Assembly]

## 8. Election and Appointment Process Study Commission

*That a Study Commission be appointed to review the election and appointment process, including reflection of multicultural diversity with recommendations to the International Executive Council for implementation of, and as necessary, inclusion on the 2020 International General Council agenda.*

## 9. RESOLUTION: MINISTERIAL ACTIVATION

*WHEREAS, ministers are called of God for “equipping of the saints for the work of ministry, for the edifying of the body of Christ” (Ephesians 4:12); and*

*WHEREAS, the times demand that our ministers be prepared academically, emotionally, and professionally to adequately tend to the needs of our constituency and finish the Great Commission; and*

*WHEREAS, the ministry is rewarding, yet extremely stressful because of the attacks both from inside and outside the church; and*

*WHEREAS, the church’s health is dependent upon the health and well-being of the minister;*

*BE IT THEREFORE RESOLVED that the general overseer, in consultation with the International Executive Committee, appoint a Task Force on Ministerial Activation, that is representative of the church (to include ministers and laity, men and women, and be ethnically diverse); and*

*BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that this Task Force specifically focus on the following areas and prepare recommendations for the International Executive Council to consider for implementation or, as necessary, inclusion on the International General Council agenda for 2020:*

- *Enhancement of the well-being of ministers and the procedures for the rehabilitation and reinstatement of ministers;*
- *Harmonization of standards relative to applicants for ministry, reflecting the international nature of the church; and*
- *Enhancement of the credentialing process; and*

*BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED that a report of this Task Force work be prepared and made available to the 2020 International General Council.*

## 10. General Requirements of Applicants for Ministry

**That we amend page 95, S21. APPLICANTS FOR MINISTRY, IV. General Requirements of Applicants for Ministry, by adding the following as item 7:**

7. *International Exceptions. The following exceptions to the established ministerial credentialing process apply only to countries outside the United States and Canada:*

- a. *That the first two levels of credentials be issued by the field director's office, upon recommendation of the regional superintendent and national overseer following appropriate screening and testing;*
- b. *That the history and polity sections of the examination for the first two ranks of ministry be redesigned to include an overview of the history and polity of the Church of God internationally and a more detailed review of the national church history and polity where the examination is administered; and*
- c. *The Ordained Bishop Examination would remain unchanged.*

## **11. Meaning and Usage of the Term "Bishop"**

*That open Ministry Forums be conducted globally to provide opportunity for deliberate and meaningful discussion, dialogue, questions/ answers and time for spiritual insight regarding the importance and understanding of ministry ranks, qualifications, and women in leadership positions with attention upon the meaning and usage of the title "bishop." Following the forums, appropriate motion(s) be formulated by the International Executive Council specifically addressing the stated issues and brought to the 2020 International General Council.*

## **12. Tithing and Reporting Consistency**

**That we amend page 124, S32. STATE OVERSEER, I. Selection, by adding the following as item 3:**

*3. Further, that all credentialed ministers be active in both tithing and attendance in a local Church of God congregation within the state/region in which the vote/evaluation is conducted.*

## **13. Lee/PTS Ministerial Scholarship**

*That a study commission be formed for the purpose of exploring a possible scholarship fund for Lee University and Pentecostal Theological Seminary students who pledge to serve as pastors or church planters in the Western USA and other areas of the United States. That the findings be brought back to the International Executive Council for consideration and possible inclusion on the 2020 International General Council agenda.*

## 14. Ministerial Position Criminal Background Checks

**That we amend page 108, S29. INSTRUCTIONS FOR MINISTERS, I. General Instructions for Ministers, by adding the following as item 11:**

*11. Any person placed/appointed/hired for a ministry position in a local congregation of the Church of God should have a criminal background check.*

## 15. Pastoral Placement

*That a Study Commission on Pastoral Placement be appointed to review the process and procedures of pastoral appointments and evaluation with recommendations presented to the International Executive Council for implementation or, as necessary, inclusion on the 2020 International General Council agenda.*

## 16. Pastoral Sabbatical

**That we amend page 173, S68, COMPENSATION FOR PASTORS, by adding the following as VII. Pastoral Sabbatical:**

So as to read:

### *VII. Pastoral Sabbatical*

*We recommend that lead pastors and, at their discretion, staff pastors take a sabbatical for purposes of personal spiritual renewal and marriage/family strengthening. Furthermore, that said recommended sabbatical is taken upon completion of five (5) consecutive years of pastoral ministry and continue throughout the pastor's ministry career on a 5 (five) year schedule. Five (5) years of pastoral ministry shall not be limited to the tenure of the present location where a pastor is serving.*

*We recommend that said sabbatical be of thirty (30) days in length and include total cessation of ministry roles and responsibilities for the full sabbatical period. The timeline of a sabbatical shall be planned in advance—the pastor working with the local church leadership and calendar, so necessary preparations can be made for continued ministry during the sabbatical.*

*The state/regional overseer and district overseer are to be informed in advance of the sabbatical, and provided with dates involved, and information concerning ministry/leadership roles during the sabbatical period. The local church where the pastor is serving shall continue full compensation during the sabbatical period.*



## 17.State Overseer Qualifications

We recommend:

**That page 124, S32. STATE OVERSEERS, II. Qualifications—be amended by adding the following as item 6:**

*6. Have served as the senior/lead pastor of a local church congregation for a minimum of five years or after having been elected to an international position. (Anyone currently under appointment as an Administrative Bishop or Youth & Discipleship Directors as of the 2018 General Assembly be exempt from this item.)*

## 18.State Overseer Qualifications—Leadership Development

**That page 125, S32. STATE OVERSEERS, be amended by inserting the following as VI. Continuing Leadership Development (Current Item VI. Duties and Authorities becomes Item VII. Duties and Authorities)**

*VI. Continuing Leadership Development  
Overseers actively participate in continuing leadership development and training courses as planned, directed, and implemented by the International Executive Committee.*

## 19.District Overseers

**That we amend page 134, S43. DISTRICT OVERSEERS, II. Duties and Authorities by adding the following as items 6 and 7:**

- 6. Annually, each district identifies and participates in a church revitalization project within the district (where feasible).*
- 7. Each district be encouraged to establish a goal for church planting every two years in partnership with the state office.*

## 20.Exhorter

**That we amend page 103, S24. EXHORTER, II. Rights and Authorities, 4, by deleting the words— “*In cases of emergency*”**

So as to read:

The exhorter may be authorized by the state overseer to baptize converts and receive believers into fellowship of church membership (47th A., 1958, pp. 28, 29).

## 21.Exhorter

That we delete on page 103, S24. EXHORTER, II. Rights and Authorities, 6.

~~6. Exhorters who are serving as helpers and assistants may receive tithes when available (21st A., 1926, p. 32).~~

## 22.RESOLUTION: GENERATIONAL ASSIMILATION

*WHEREAS, the ministry pool of the Church of God has continued to age in the past few decades; and*

*WHEREAS, these aging ministers have contributed greatly to the establishment and advancement of the ministries of the Church of God; and*

*WHEREAS, a Caleb Generation of ministers has much to offer a new generation of God-called, Spirit-filled ministers by mentoring, advising, and guiding the younger generation; and*

*WHEREAS, a new generation of young ministers—the Jeremiah Generation—stands ready to march into the harvest with a decided determination to FINISH the Great Commission in their generation; and*

*WHEREAS, the Church of God must provide opportunities for upward mobility of potential leaders at all levels of ministry and administration; and*

*WHEREAS, there is an expressed need for assimilation of the generations into a dynamic, Spirit-empowered force to go into the harvest and FINISH the Great Commission; and*

*WHEREAS, a need exists for greater cooperation in ministry by both older and younger generations so that we may complete the task assigned to us by our Lord in His Great Commission to the Church in Matthew 28:19-20;*

*THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the International Executive Council of the Church of God implement ways and means to provide meaningful recognition and affirmation of aging ministers; and*

*BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that we embrace the Jeremiah Generation of emerging ministers in meaningful ways that will mobilize this army of younger ministers; and*

*BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED that we consider practical actions for the assimilation of generations into a viable spiritual force for the work of the ministry and for the advancement of the gospel, so the Church of God may FINISH the Great Commission.*

## 23.Ministry Life Planning

That page 127, S32. STATE OVERSEER, VI. Duties and Authorities, Item 22, be added so as to read:

22. *That each state/regional office conduct an annual Ministry Life Planning Training event covering the issues and challenges of retirement planning, ministerial retirement transition, ministerial taxes, healthcare, and whole life health, assisting ministers of every age to approach the stages of life successfully and to embrace the aging of ministry.*

## **24. Engaging the “Jeremiah Generation”**

**That we amend page 127, S32, STATE OVERSEERS, VI. Duties and Authorities by adding the following as item 23:**

23. *That each State/Regional Overseer in cooperation with the State/Regional Youth and Discipleship Director, lead pastors, student pastors, and the perspective state/regional Ministerial Development Board (CAMS and MIP) adopt an annual plan for identifying, mentoring/training, and engaging young men and women designated as the “Jeremiah Generation” in both local and state/regional ministry of the Church of God.*

## **25. Generational Task Force**

*The establishment of a Generational Task Force designed to identify and embrace the differing requirements of generational ministry. The Generational Task Force is to be appointed by the International Executive Committee and is to meet at least yearly to provide input to the International Executive Committee regarding the needs of the various generations.*

## **26. Aging of Ministry Task Force**

*That a Task Force be appointed to study the aging of ministry in the Church of God and ways and means to provide meaningful recognition and affirmation of aging ministers with recommendations to the International Executive Council for implementation of, or as necessary, inclusion on the 2020 International General Council agenda.*

## **27. RESOLUTION: SPIRITUAL ACCELERATION**

*WHEREAS, from our humble beginning, we have been a movement characterized by our insistence upon the authority of God’s Word; and*

*WHEREAS, our firm stand on scriptural authority has led us to our fundamental statement that we accept the whole Bible, rightly divided, and the New Testament as our only rule for discipline and government; and*

*WHEREAS, we, as a movement, have delineated our basic beliefs in the document known as the Church of God Declaration of Faith; and*  
*WHEREAS, we, as with other religious organizations, now face great and complex challenges to our historic faith; and,*  
*WHEREAS, the Church of God sees itself as a divine work of the Holy Spirit, a vital part of a spiritual movement called to help usher in revival and bring renewal to a spiritually hungry world; and*  
*WHEREAS, we have pledged our movement to FINISH, in this generation, the Great Commission given to the Church by our Lord in Matthew 28:19-20;*  
*THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that this 77<sup>th</sup> International General Council of the Church of God diligently seeks to implement ways and means to foster renewed dedication and commitment to the core values of the Church of God as outlined in the Minutes of the International General Assembly; an*  
*BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED that we consider appointing a Task Force to study and review the “Commitments to the Core Values of the Church of God” so that we may retain our unique position as one of the leading Pentecostal churches in the world.*

## **28. Core Values—Commitments to Our Mission and Vision**

*That a Task Force be appointed to study ways to renew our commitment to our Mission and Vision Statement with recommendations to the International Executive Council for implementation or, if necessary, inclusion on the 2020 International General Council agenda.*

### **III. MOTIONS**

**29.** To amend page 66:

**S5 INTERNATIONAL EXECUTIVE COUNCIL, I. SELECTION** –by deleting paragraph 2 which currently reads:

The International Executive Council is comprised of the International Executive Committee and eighteen (18) elected members. Not less than nine (9) members shall be pastors at the time of their election. Further, two (2) members of the Council of Eighteen shall be at the time of their election foreign nationals residing and ministering outside the United States. No member of the International Executive Committee who has just completed his tenure of office shall be eligible to serve on the International Executive Council for the ensuing International General Assembly term.

and replacing with:

The International Executive Council is comprised of the International Executive Committee and eighteen (18) elected members. Not less than twelve (12) members shall be pastors at the time of their election. Further, three (3) members of the Council of Eighteen shall be at the time of their election foreign nationals residing and ministering outside the United States. No member of the International Executive Committee who has just completed his tenure of office shall be eligible to serve on the International Executive Council for the ensuing International General Assembly term.

**30.** To amend page 172:

**S68 COMPENSATION FOR PASTORS, I. BASIC COMPENSATION** – by amending paragraph 4 which currently reads:

Contribution by the local church to the Church of God Ministers' Retirement Plan for the pastor of an amount equal to at least **five** percent of the cash compensation received by the pastor.

and replace with:

Contribution by the local church to the Church of God Ministers' Retirement Plan for the pastor of an amount equal to at least **ten** percent of the cash compensation received by the pastor.

**31.** The following motion will amend the minutes on page 153 S54 Financial System Section III by adding the following paragraph as to read

5. Further, any pastor who is found at fault by the investigation committee who has failed to send in their respective church reports for four (4) months or more are subject to disciplinary action from their respective Administrative Bishop, up to revocation of credentials. Administrative Bishops can make exceptions on a case-by-case basis, and as is in compliance with the Minutes on page 73 S7 Section II Paragraph 11 under Duties of the General Overseer, this action must be approved by the General Overseer for final determination.

**32.** The motion will amend the minutes on page 106 S28 Ministerial Reporting Section III replacing paragraph two with the following:

2. Further, he/she shall be notified in writing that if he/she fails to report for a period of four (4) months, his/her credentials will be subject to revocation, after due disciplinary process on a case-by-case basis.

- 33.** That we create a task force to study reorganizing the International Youth and Discipleship department and the possible partnership with Lee University and Pentecostal Theological Seminary to develop kids and student study series for kids' church and student worship.

#### **IV. RESOLUTIONS**

1. Appreciation to Timothy M. Hill
2. Appreciation to the International Executive Committee
3. Appreciation to the International Executive Council
4. Appreciation to the 77<sup>th</sup> General Assembly Cabinet
5. Appreciation to City of Orlando, Florida
6. Unity in Finishing the Great Commission
7. School Violence

**RESOLUTION OF APPRECIATION  
Presiding Bishop Timothy M. Hill**

**WHEREAS**, Dr. Timothy M. Hill has faithfully served the Church of God during his lifetime as a dynamic Christian musician and songwriter, Pastor, Evangelist, State Youth Director, State Administrative Bishop, and Member of the Executive Council; and

**WHEREAS**, he has provided executive leadership as Director of World Missions wherein he expanded the global mission of the Church of God and its continuing benevolent global ministry through programs such as “Marcelly’s Dream;” and

**WHEREAS**, his service as a member of the Executive Committee for ten years has been distinguished by His passion for the Church of God and its role in the Kingdom of God; and

**WHEREAS**, as Presiding Bishop since 2016, his dedicated efforts to lead the Church of God to engage finishing the Great Commission through the FINISH COMMITMENT emphasis is reigniting a Spirit-filled passion to win the lost for Christ in this generation; and

**WHEREAS**, as Presiding Bishop since 2016, he has maintained as unprecedented awareness to raise up a younger generation of leaders, known as the “JEREMIAH GENERATION” that will lead the Church of God for decades to come; and

**WHEREAS**, he has focused all his efforts, leadership skill, and broad experience for furthering the Kingdom of God through the ministries of the Church of God tirelessly;

**NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED** that we commit ourselves to fulfilling the biblical mandates and mission of the Church in finishing the Great Commission; and

**BE FURTHER RESOLVED** that we pray for God’s continued empowerment of the ministries of the church and for blessings upon Presiding Bishop Timothy M. Hill and his family for the ensuing years as he leads the Church of God.

**RESOLUTION**  
**Church of God International Executive Committee**

**WHEREAS**, Presiding Bishop, Dr. Timothy M. Hill, First Assistant, Dr. Raymond F. Culpepper, Second Assistant, Dr. J. David Stephens, Third Assistant, Dr. David E. Ramirez, and Secretary General, Dr. John D. Childers have served the Church of God with distinction, humility and integrity; and

**WHEREAS**, they have exemplified and demonstrated biblical unity, the power of Christian teamwork, effective ministry acumen, financial accountability and transparency in all aspects of denominational oversight through the “Let’s Talk About It” series; and

**WHEREAS**, they have utilized all available media prowess to cast a vision for a Global Harvest and have aggressively led the Church of God to follow a Global blueprint to FINISH the Great Commission in our lifetime; and

**WHEREAS**, the FINISH commitment engages the Church of God to FIND the lost and disenfranchised, INTERCEDE through prayer and worship, NETWORK servant leaders of all generations, INVEST our resources for greater effectiveness, SEND disciples to all nations, and reap a great Kingdom HARVEST; and

**WHEREAS**, they have reaffirmed the mission of the Church by further clarifying the Essential Alignment of Priorities, Paradigms and Purpose, Doctrinal Affirmation, and Visual Actualization; and

**WHEREAS**, they have initiated the JEREMIAH PROJECT, enabling the Church of God to provide a platform to identify, equip, release, empower, and highlight a generation of young leaders to lead today and into the future; and

**WHEREAS**, they have both called and led the Church of God to engage in a continual and consistent season of prayer and fasting; furthermore, they have provided opportunity for the International Church to participate with them in seasons of prayer and fasting through social media; and

**WHEREAS**, they have provided the leadership to effectively establish a Church Planting Bank and have reignited a fire of passion to plant new life-giving churches in the United States and around the world; and

**WHEREAS**, they have provided the leadership to effectively launch a Church Revitalization emphasis that provides the impetus for an established church to look at their past, examine their present, and cast new vision for their future; and



**WHEREAS**, they have provided leadership to train and release Church Planting Coaches and Church Revitalization Coaches to assist planters and pastors in their mission;

**NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Church of God expresses its deepest and most profound gratitude and appreciation to the Church of God International Executive Committee for their leadership and partnership.

## **RESOLUTION**

### **Church of God International Executive Council**

**WHEREAS**, the 2016-2018 Church of God International General Assembly elected into office the general overseer, his assistants and the secretary general, which constitutes the Church of God International Executive Committee and

**WHEREAS**, eighteen councilors, were elected by the International General Council and Assembly duly ascribed to as the Council of Eighteen to serve the Church of God in matters governance, polity, and doctrine, and

**WHEREAS**, the International Executive Committee and the Council of Eighteen constitute the International Executive Council and is duly authorized by the International General Assembly, to meet together for the purpose of considering and acting upon all matters pertaining to the general interest and welfare of the Church of God, and

**WHEREAS**, members of the Church of God present matters pertaining to the general interest and welfare of the church to be considered as agenda items at this assembly and

**WHEREAS**, at various times as set by the general overseer, the International Executive Council convened, prayed, reviewed, and deliberated on such matters, following the leading of the Holy Spirit adopting recommendations and setting them forth as agenda items for this general assembly and

**WHEREAS**, those items were presented, before the International General Council and this Assembly as the agenda to be discussed, amended or modified as needed. That after much spirited deliberations, certain agenda items were adopted according to our polity and standards for the purpose of advancing the Kingdom of God and the mission of the global church;

**NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED**, that we the International General Council express our most sincere appreciations to each and every member of the International Executive Council for their leadership and commitment to serve. And further we appreciate the many hours they have sacrificed away from their families, churches, and offices in preparation of the General Assembly agenda.

**And finally**, that we appreciate the passion and humility demonstrated as the Internal Executive Council worked faithfully, seeking the will of God for the future welfare of the Church of God.

## **RESOLUTION**

### **Appreciation to the 77<sup>th</sup> International General Assembly Cabinet**

WHEREAS, the first General Assembly of the Church of God of 1906 was sponsored, organized and managed by the twenty-one delegates in attendance; and

WHEREAS, several of the members of the 1906 Assembly delegates, could be described as the precursor to the contemporary International General Assembly Cabinet; and

WHEREAS, the 2018 International General Assembly Cabinet, have had the immense logistical and organizational responsibility, that required the involvement of numerous committees, hundreds of planners, designers, schedulers, professionals, specialists, workers, and auxiliary personnel; and

WHEREAS, the 2018 International General Assembly Cabinet, devoted hundreds of hours of administration, preparation and supervision, that have resulted in a successful and enjoyable convention; and

WHEREAS, the appointed committees and personnel performed their duties in a proficient and professional manner; and

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the 2018 International General Assembly leaders and delegates, express sincere and heartfelt appreciation to the 2018 General Assembly Cabinet, namely; Presiding Bishop Timothy M. Hill, Executive Bishop John D. Childers (Chairman), David Ray, Art Rhodes, David Blair, Dusty Wilson Ken Bell, Kevin Brooks, Raymond Hodge, Anthony Pelt, Yvette Santana and Dennis Watkins, (Consultant), for their dedicated participation that has ensured the fruitful, well-organized, and effective functioning of the 2018 International General Assembly of the Church of God.

**RESOLUTION**  
**City of Orlando, Florida**

**WHEREAS**, the delegates of this 77th Church of God International General Assembly are indebted to our host city, Orlando, Florida, for a most successful meeting, July 31-August 3, 2018; and

**WHEREAS**, the City of Orlando, Florida, along with its Mayor Buddy Dyer and Visit Orlando, the official source for Orlando meetings and conventions, have welcomed the delegates of the Assembly and have crafted meeting arrangements in a superior manner; and

**WHEREAS**, the City of Orlando, Florida, has lived up to its nickname, "The City Beautiful" and has provided some 450 hotels and resorts for Assembly delegates and has offered a variety of restaurants and world-class amusement parks for the Church of God Family, and

**WHEREAS**, the City of Orlando, Florida has offered easy accessibility to delegates via the airlines and interstates and has offered one of the country's largest convention centers in the Orange County Convention Center, and

**WHEREAS**, Orlando's Orange County Convention Center has spacious and comfortable meeting and exhibition areas, providing a pleasant and cordial environment for the Assembly, and

**WHEREAS**, the leadership, staff, volunteers, and citizens of the City of Orlando, Florida, have once again gone beyond the call of duty to host this 77th Church of God International General Assembly,

**NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED**, that the International General Assembly leaders and delegates express its sincere and heartfelt appreciation to the City of Orlando, Florida, and the Orange County Convention Center for your hospitality shown to the delegates of this 77<sup>th</sup> International General Assembly and pray for God's continued blessings upon this city.

**RESOLUTION**  
**Unity in Finishing the Great Commission**

**WHEREAS**, Jesus prayed for the unity of His followers: “That they all may be one,” (John 17:21); and

**WHEREAS**, Jesus’ prayer was answered prior to Pentecost and on the Day of Pentecost-Acts 1:14; 2:1; and

**WHEREAS**, Paul called for the church to endeavor to remain in unity-Ephesians 4:1-3; and

**WHEREAS**, the Church of God has accepted the FINISH Commitment to fulfill the Great Commission; and

**WHEREAS**, the accomplishment of this task will require that we partner together with one another in the Church of God and that we partner with others in the body of Christ realizing that together we can do more; and

**WHEREAS**, the body of Christ in 2018 has been made aware of the Finish 2030 Movement, a global church network of more than 2,400 Christian denominations encompassing nearly six hundred thousand churches with the goal to double the size of the Church and make it harder for people to live on this earth and not hear the Gospel of Jesus Christ; and

**WHEREAS**, the Early Church has given us the pattern of synergy in Acts 2 stated in terms such as “they,” “together,” and “in common” with the synergy among those early believers climaxing in their having “turned their world upside down”; and

**BE IT THEREFORE RESOLVED** that the Church of God makes unity not just a stated value but an actual practice as we network, partner, and cooperate with other Evangelicals and Pentecostal denominations in a kingdom mindset to fulfill and finish the Great Commission trusting that with God’s help and favor such will be accomplished.

## **RESOLUTION**

### **School Violence**

**WHEREAS**, it appears to us that contemporary culture has become marked by violence, and such has been exhibited particularly against the most vulnerable in our societies; and

**WHEREAS**, we observe in the United States that a culture of violence appears to have emerged among our school aged children and among our college students demonstrated in the escalation of reported incidents of bullying and assault and in the most extreme cases, the occurrence of horrific tragic events where multiple lives of our students have been lost as a result of violence; and

**WHEREAS**, violence in our schools at any level disrupts the educational environment, whether it occurs on campus, during transit to or from school, during school-sponsored events at any school level or in communications through social media; and

**WHEREAS**, students who are the objects of any form of violence in their schools may experience trauma, fear and anxiety that can significantly impact their lives; and

**WHEREAS**, we observe that many students and teachers have exemplified courage in the appropriate witness of their faith and walk in Christ at the risk of experiencing violence in their schools; and

**WHEREAS**, Holy Scripture teaches us that our children and youth are a blessing from the Lord (Psalm 127:3) and directs us to provide for their training and development (Deuteronomy 6:6-7; Proverbs 22:6; Ephesians 6:4);

**THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED** that the Church of God extend prayer and compassion to all those students and families that have been touched by school violence and for our schools with the goal of peace and civility; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that we encourage our ministers and laity to engage school and civic leadership to address school violence, to provide safe educational environments, and to encourage a culture of those long-held traits of good citizenship: love, respect and accountability; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that we commit our efforts to teach our students the traits of love, respect and accountability as part of the proper behavior of Christian believers; and that we give diligent effort to support families and parents in our ministries where these traits can be reinforced; and

**BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED** that we commend those students and teachers who have faithfully demonstrated their Christian faith and values in their daily lives in the face of school violence and commit our prayers for divine protection and strengthening for them.