



NEW JERSEY CHURCH OF GOD

# STATE MINUTES

2022-2024

*THE CHURCH ON MISSION*

*Harvest '24*

*SYNERGY*

*ON BEHALF OF THE CURRENT NEW JERSEY STATE COUNCIL AND THE EXECUTIVE OFFICE,  
WE HONOR ALL THOSE WHO HAVE LABORED TO MAKE THE CHURCHES OF GOD IN THE  
GARDEN STATE A GREAT PLACE FOR ALL TO WORSHIP!*

## General Overseer's Vision



The vision of our General Overseer is Harvest 24: Finish Commission as we laborer together for the Great Commission. Dr. Tim Hill continues to remind us that bringing in the Harvest “together” has to be our focus! Read the entire vision breakdown at: <https://www.churchofgodcommunications.com/>

## State Administrative Bishop's Vision



I fully believe the New Jersey Church of God has been ahead of the vision in many ways. Over the past four years we have released leaders to go into the HARVEST. We have been empowering younger ministers and activating those who have been idle for the HARVEST. *We have had 26 ministers move up in rank. We have added 21 new ministers to the New Jersey Church of God. We have planted 4 new churches.* I believe that we have ACTIVATED and ADVANCED in many ways in preparation for the HARVEST. So for the next four years I would like us to focus on ACHIEVING more of the HARVEST. I am not asking for us to do more but to SYNERGIZE our efforts so that we can ACHIEVE more. Let's look around our communities and see how we can SYNERGIZE our efforts with others to ACHIEVE the advancement of the Kingdom of God.

*\*\*Cited General Assembly Minutes Sections & Pages are subject to the current General Assembly Minutes and Updates.\*\**

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## **INTERNATIONAL EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE**

Timothy M. Hill	General Overseer
Raymond F. Culpepper	First Assistant Overseer
Tony Stewart	Second Assistant Overseer
David Ramirez	Third Assistant Overseer
Gary Lewis	Secretary General

## **NEW JERSEY EXECUTIVE STAFF**

Raymond Burch Jr.	Administrative Bishop
Kayvon Wyles	Youth and Discipleship Director
Lorna Burch	Women's Ministries Director
Tashane Wyles	Girls Ministries Coordinator

## **STATE OFFICE PERSONNEL**

Ejoke Ebowe	Executive State Treasurer
Gwendolyn Wilson	State Credentialing Secretary
DongSoon Gill	Administrative Assistant

## **IMPORTANT TELEPHONE NUMBERS**

State Office	732/765-8080
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## **OFFICE HOURS**

Monday-Thursday  
9:00 AM-4:00 PM  
Office is closed on Fridays and all major Holidays

**WORKING MINUTES  
NEW JERSEY CHURCH OF GOD  
STATE MINISTERS MEETING  
2022-2024 MINUTES**

**STATEMENT OF PURPOSE**

The purpose of the State Minutes is to advance the mission, vision and commitments of the Church of God Cleveland, TN. The Minutes of the New Jersey Church of God Ministers' Meeting comprise the permanent program for the state, subject to Church of God General Assembly actions as outlined by the supplement to the Minutes.

We the ministers of the New Jersey Church of God fully support and subscribe to all measures adopted by the General Assembly of the Church of God. Further we, the Ministers of the New Jersey Church of God, declare these Minutes of the 2022 State Ministers' Meeting to be the official standing guidelines and policies for the Churches of God in the New Jersey Church of God. Future State Ministers' Meetings shall only concern themselves with additions, deletions or other items deemed appropriate by the Administrative Bishop, State Council and the Motions Committee. The State Office shall send a copy of the additions, deletions and other items deemed appropriate by the Administrative Bishop and the State Council, to all ministers seven (7) days prior to the next Ministers' Meeting.

That there be a biennial State Ministers' Meeting following each General Assembly and that we have a Minister's and Spouse Retreat in the off-assembly year. The State Overseer shall arrange the time and place. That the changes brought about by action of the General Assembly and/or General Executive Council are automatically entered or deleted as a matter of updating the State Ministers' Meeting Minutes as Article 1A.

**EDITORIAL PRIVILEGE**

Whereas, the New Jersey Church of God Ministers' Meeting continues to grow in magnitude and size as well as business, which requires the attention of the ministerial constituency, all items and programs planned on a yearly basis should be so stated and at the end of the two-year program be automatically deleted from the Minutes. The Administrative Bishop and State Council are authorized to edit and arrange the Minutes in a systematic, orderly format.

**MISSION STATEMENT**

*Whereas, the New Jersey Church of God State Office and Staff serves pastors and ministers through training and resourcing, thereby facilitating the expansion of the Kingdom of God.*

**BOARDS AND COMMITTEES**

**ELECTION PROCEDURES**

That we establish Robert's Rules of Order, Newly Revised Edition, as procedure for all business.

- 1) That election procedure shall be as follows:
  - i. Nominations shall be made from the floor by ballot.

- ii. The nominating ballot shall be cast for the number of members on the respective board.
- iii. If any person shall obtain a majority vote of the votes cast on the nominating ballot, they shall be declared duly elected.
- iv. Nominees may be eliminated from the ballot by majority vote after the first election ballot has been cast.
- v. No minister shall be eligible to serve on more than one elected board during the assembly period.
- vi. A first and second alternate shall be elected for each elected State Board by virtue of the highest votes received following the last member elected. These alternates shall be used in order of election to fill vacancies on said boards. The names of all persons receiving less than ten votes for an elected board or committee shall not be read to the ministers.
- vii. When a member fills a vacancy for any elected board for less than one year, it shall not count against their eligibility.
- viii. All credentialed ministers, actively reporting to the state of New Jersey are eligible to vote for all elected boards.
- ix. That a listing of all Ordained Ministers and Ordained Bishops shall be provided for the body prior to the State Minister's meeting. All eligible Ordained Bishops who's personal and/or church reports are up to date (three months or less to include all monies due) shall be able to serve on the State Council or any elected board if elected.

### STATE COUNCIL

- 1) The New Jersey State Council shall consist of seven (7) Ordained Bishops and two alternates or/and in keeping with the Church of God General Assembly requirements elected by ballot.
- 2) That the State Council be elected to serve for a two-year term. A member shall be eligible to succeed himself two terms. When an alternate fills the office through a vacancy and he serves one year and one day, it shall be counted as a full-term.
- 3) Any State Council member that becomes delinquent in his minister or church reports for three consecutive months, he will be given 30 days to catch up on all reports or be removed from the Council.

### ELECTION RESULTS 2022-2024 STATE COUNCIL

Chris Fraley - Chair  
Gary Mullings - Co-Chair  
Philip Bonaparte  
Steven Allen

Donnie Anderson  
Ralston Denton  
Wesner Pepe

**ALTERNATE**    Doug Adams

Larue Hayden

#### **Duties and Responsibilities:**

The State Council shall serve in accordance with the rulings of the **General Assembly Minutes**

**Section S33 (2018 or current GA minutes).**

**BOARD OF TRUSTEES**

That the State Board of Trustees serve the State of New Jersey in accordance with the Church of God **General Assembly Minutes Section S34 (2018 or current GA minutes).**

2022-2024 STATE BOARD OF TRUSTEES

Chris A. Fraley  
Philip Bonaparte  
Cecil Mullings

**MINISTERIAL DEVELOPMENT**

The State Board of Ministerial Development shall be appointed biennially by the Administrative Bishop. This board shall consist of the State Credentialing Secretary, MIP Coordinator, the CAMS Coordinator, the Mobilize Coordinator, the Chaplaincy Coordinator, Ministerial Licensure Coordination and Coordinators' Assistances and not less than five members at large. The chair of the Ministerial Development Board shall be appointed by the Administrative Bishop and approved by the State Council.

2022-2024 STATE BOARD OF MINISTERIAL DEVELOPMENT

Glen Colley, Chairman  
Gwendolyn Wilson, Credentialing Secretary  
Chris Fraley, MIP Coordinator  
Steve Allen, Licensure Coordinator  
Cecil Mullings, CAMS Coordinator  
Philip Bonaparte  
Ralston Denton  
Lynford Jamieson

Clive McBean, Chaplaincy Program  
Doug Adams, Mobilize Coordinator  
Kennesha Sampson, Cred. Sec. Asst.  
Ann-Marie Stephenson, MIP Administrator  
Kasey Byne-Edwards, CAMS Administrator  
Clifford Mundell  
Paul Taylor  
Joseph Theophilus  
Daniel Wilson

Duties and Responsibilities:

The State Board of Ministerial Development shall serve in accordance with the rulings of the **General Assembly Minutes Section S35 (2018 or current GA minutes)**. A more detailed state program can be found on page 16 in this book.

**YOUTH AND DISCIPLESHIP DIRECTOR**

The State Youth and Discipleship Director shall be nominated by the state overseer and elected by the State Council prior to the International General Assembly. Duties and Authorities are outlined in **General Assembly Minutes Section S37 (2018 or current GA minutes)**. A more detailed state program can be found on pages 21-24 in this book.



## YOUTH AND DISCIPLESHIP BOARD

That the State Youth and Discipleship Board be composed of seven (7) Ordained Ministers and/or Ordained Bishops, and two alternates, who shall be elected biennially and serve in accordance to the rulings of the General Assembly. The term of office shall be two years. A member shall be eligible to succeed themselves two terms.

1. Any State Youth & Discipleship Board member that becomes delinquent in his/her report for three consecutive months shall be given 30 days to catch up all reports or be removed from the board.

### ELECTION RESULTS

#### 2022-2024 STATE YOUTH AND DISCIPLESHIP BOARD

Monique McBean -Chair  
Lloyd Robotham -Co-Chair  
Stacy Denton  
Scarov Victor

Jerry Paul  
Nicholas Bowden  
Christopher Tamas

**ALTERNATE** Corvena Francis-Denton

Stevenson Simon

#### Duties and Responsibilities:

The Youth and Discipleship Board shall serve in accordance with the rulings of the **General Assembly Minutes Section S36 (2018 or current GA minutes)**. A more detailed state program can be found on pages 21-24 in this book.

### STATE EVANGELISM AND MISSIONS DIRECTOR (USA MISSIONS)

The Administrative Bishop may submit a name to the State Council for a state Evangelism and Missions director for election prior to the International General Assembly. Evangelism and Missions director shall serve in accordance with the rulings of the **General Assembly Minutes Section S38 (2018 or current GA minutes)**.

### STATE EVANGELISM BOARD

The Evangelism Board chairman shall be appointed by the State Administrative Bishop biennially. The board shall consist of not less than 3 non-pastoring credentialed ministers.

#### 2022-2024 STATE EVANGELISM BOARD

Stanford Senior, Jr.-Chairman  
Glandene Carroo  
Jacqueline Holness

Curdell Denton  
Carlene Moore  
Sophia Johnson-Noncent

#### Duties and Responsibilities:

The Evangelism Board shall serve the pastors of NJCOG by:

- a. Training local church evangelists on developing soul winning programs.
- b. Identifying, accessing, training, and mobilizing prospective church evangelists.
- c. Helping local pastors to develop a new convert assimilation program.
- d. Using the resources provided at <https://gofinish.org>.

- e. Assisting the Church Planting and Revitalization Task Force.

**STATE WORLD MISSIONS BOARDS**

The Administrative Bishop shall appoint a State Representative (Chairman) to work with no less than 3 members of the State World Missions Board shall serve in accordance with the rulings of the **General Assembly Minutes Section S41 (2018 or current GA minutes)**.

2022-2024 STATE WORLD MISSIONS BOARD

<u>Doug Adams-Chairman</u>	<u>Karen Collins</u>
<u>Daniel Wilson</u>	<u>Patricia Bowden</u>

**STATE MUSIC BOARD**

The Church of God in New Jersey shall have a State Music Board that serve in accordance with the rulings of the **General Assembly Minutes Section S41 (2018 or current GA minutes)**.

2022-2024 STATE MUSIC COMMITTEE

<u>Kasey Edwards, Chairman</u>	<u>Mona Plant (Breakthrough)</u>
<u>Larry Jules (Roselle Haitian)</u>	<u>Stacey Bryham (Gates of Praise)</u>
<u>Nicole Miller (Mt. Bethel)</u>	

STATE MUSIC SUB-COMMITTEE

<u>Therendy Suffren (Youth Chairman)</u>	<u>Solomon &amp; Cassandra Cobbs (Freehold)</u>
<u>Shanice Brown (Paterson)</u>	<u>Andrea Stone (Breakthrough)</u>
<u>Shenneeka Palmer (Mt. Bethel)</u>	

The State Youth and Discipleship Director shall serve as an ex-officio member. The board shall meet as often as the Administrative Bishop and chairman deem necessary.

**DISTRICT OVERSEERS**

According to the *Minutes of the International General Assembly*, the District Overseer is appointed by the Administrative Bishop. District Overseer shall perform official duties on their respective district, as outlined by the General Assembly Minutes, Section 43 (**S43**).

**2022-2024 DISTRICT OVERSEERS**

<u>Deptford District</u>	<u>Lynford Jamieson, Deptford</u>
<u>Paterson District</u>	<u>Donnie Anderson, Paterson</u>
<u>Plainfield District</u>	<u>Glen Colley, Plainfield</u>
<u>Newark District</u>	<u>Clive McBean, Newark</u>
<u>Lakewood District</u>	<u>Jerome Robinson, Lakewood</u>
<u>Millville District</u>	<u>Jamie Bradham, Millville</u>
<u>Trenton District</u>	<u>Cecil Mullings, Trenton</u>
<u>Haitian District</u>	<u>Wesner Pepe, Newark &amp; Saint-Pierre Pasteur, East Orange</u>
<u>Freehold District</u>	<u>Chris Fraley, Freehold</u>
<u>Indian District</u>	<u>Rajan Skaria, Clifton</u>
<u>MBI District</u>	<u>Byron Straube</u>

### District Gathering

Each district uses the **5th Sunday** evening of the month as district gathering, to encourage and build local churches to equip and bring unification of members.

1. Further, that a freewill offering be taken at the state and district gatherings and after expenses are met at district gatherings, 50% remain in the district and 50% be given to the state Home Missions.

### Duties and Responsibilities

It shall be the responsibility of the District Overseer to oversee the inspection of each local church and parsonage located in their district annually. This inspection is necessary to ensure that properties are properly insured and well maintained. The report is to be submitted by the Pastor to the District Overseer by August 1st and returned to the State Office by August 31<sup>st</sup> each year. (Inspection forms will be provided by the state office.)

- a) Each District Overseer is also responsible to check on the insurance status of the church properties, further statements for property tax exempt status, Articles of Incorporation & Bylaws, and State Tax Exempt number (ST5). It is illegal for a church to use the State Office's (EIN) or State Offices New Jersey Sales Tax Exempt number (ST5).
- b) Each District Overseer will check the payment history in each church, ensuring that bills, mortgages, insurance, and reports are paid in a timely manner.
- c) Each District Overseer will check the current status of reporting for each church in their respective district, and make sure all reports and monies are submitted to the State and General Offices in a timely manner.
- d) Leadership Development-District Seminars
  1. That we conduct pastoral workshops for the purpose of inspiration, orientation, motivation, information and encouragement in perfecting skills for a more efficient pastoral ministry in each local church. And that each pastor be encouraged to attend a minimum of one training conference each year sponsored by the general or state offices.
- e) Generation X (Emerging Leader Initiative)
  1. That District Overseers invest time and resources in our young ministers (thirty years of age and younger) to mentoring, training, equipping, and promoting fellowship. The Jeremiah Generation will meet no less than two times each year under the direction of the Administrative Bishop.

*The members of the International Executive Committee are calling for District Overseers to come into a covenant relationship with the state office and the pastors/ministers in their district. This new initiative will require a new commitment on the part of those appointed as a district overseer.*

### ***District Overseer Commitment***

*If appointed to serve as a District Overseer, I commit to the following:*

- *To fulfill all the responsibilities outlined in the Minutes of the International General Assembly.*
- *To be an example of prompt reporting with both personal ministerial reports and church reports.*
- *To serve as a mentor/coach to the ministers in my district.*
- *To serve as a pastor to the ministers and their families in my district.*
- *To lead a Covenant Care Community of the ministers in my district.*
- *To attend the training conference for District Overseers.*
- *To monitor the progress of all the churches in the district.*
- *To attend all state meetings, if possible [camp meeting(s), prayer conference(s), etc.]*
- *To do everything possible to encourage all the ministers in my district to attend the state meetings.*
- *To provide an annual consultation with each church and pastor in the district.*

*Further, each District Overseer attends an annual church consulting training conference provided by the State Office in order to receive certification as a church consultant.*

### **DISTRICT YOUTH AND DISCIPLESHIP DIRECTOR**

The District Overseer is, by virtue of their office, district Youth and Discipleship Director, but if the work requires, the state Youth and Discipleship director, together with the district overseer, may appoint an assistant to serve in this capacity, General Assembly Minutes, Section 44 (**S44**).

#### **District Youth Gathering**

- A. Each district establishes an annual district youth gathering to encourage and build local church Youth Ministries and provide district and state unification of young people.
- B. Further, that a freewill offering be taken at the State and district gatherings and after expenses are met at district gatherings, 50% remain on the district and 50% be given to the state Youth and Discipleship Department.

#### **Duties and Responsibilities**

Work closely and cooperatively with the State Youth and Discipleship Director.

- 1) To assist the District Overseer in the programs of youth and Christian Discipleship in the district. Work in complete harmony and cooperation with him in promoting the work in local churches in the district.
- 2) Visit each church in the district and become acquainted with the youth and discipleship programs, leaders, and young people.
- 3) Promote Evangel magazine and other publications pertaining to the ministry of Youth and Discipleship.

- 4) Outline definite plans to promote the general and state programs, promoting each ministry as set forth by the respective departments.
- 5) Conduct annual district rallies that are well planned, that have youth appeal and that help build a spirit of cooperation and fellowship in the district.
- 6) Stimulate interest on behalf of the Church of God Bible schools and colleges: Lee University and Pentecostal Theological Seminary (Cleveland, TN).
- 7) Avail him/herself to training opportunities such as state and general conventions, leadership training meetings, National Youth Leaders Association, Training Our Own Leaders (T.O.O.Ls) and District Director's Retreats. Discuss plans and projects with his/her District Overseer and agree on dates, procedures and responsibilities.
- 8) Each district shall have a District Youth and Discipleship Director who shall be nominated by the District Overseer and appointed by the State Youth and Discipleship Director.
- 9) That special emphasis is placed on accepting the responsibilities of the District Youth and Discipleship Directors as outlined in the District Director's job description.
- 10) Further, the District Youth and Discipleship Director gives full cooperation to the State Youth and Discipleship Director.
- 11) That we sponsor a District Youth and Discipleship Director's conference for the purpose of training the District Director for more effective service. Further, if additional meetings are needed, they would be subject to approval of the State Overseer and under the direction of the State Youth and Discipleship Director.

### **WOMEN'S MINISTRIES (STATE) [WOMEN'S DISCIPLESHIP]**

Purpose and Objectives To encourage spiritual growth, personal development, and leadership among women and to contribute to the general welfare of the home, church, community and world.

**General Assembly Minutes Section S45 (2018 or current GA minutes). *International Women's Ministries* - [cogwomensministries.com](http://cogwomensministries.com) Phone: (423) 478-7170 A more detailed state program can be found on pages 25-27 in this book.**

#### **I. President**

1. The office of Church of God Women' Discipleship president [at the state level] shall be created.
2. The wife of the state overseer shall fill this office.
3. The purpose of this office shall be to provide leadership for Women's Discipleship [at the state level] in cooperation with the general church program.

### **STATE PROGRAMS**

- **PRAYER CONFERENCE, CONVENTIONS, RETREATS, CAMP MEETINGS, ETC.**  
That the Prayer Conference, Ministers and Spouse Retreats be left to the discretion of the State Overseer and approved by the State Council.
  - A. That the choice of speakers be selected by the State Overseer and supported by the State Council.
  - B. That the Camp Meetings services be supported by all New Jersey Church of God members and ministers should attend all state programs, unless there is death,

sickness, or secular employment conflict and that all state functions should be announced in the local church prior to the event.

C. Churches will continue to celebrate their own Sunday Morning worship services during Camp Meeting, however all evening services will be canceled by the local church so that they can participate in the state Camp Meeting services.

- DEADLINE FOR RECOGNITION AT CAMP MEETING

All monies and records will begin September 1 of the fiscal year and end May 31 resulting in a nine-month report each year, for recognition purposes.

A. In order to receive recognition at camp meetings, all monies toward state programs must be postmarked no later than June 5 of the annual church calendar year.

B. Each church nominates a member of their congregation for the Having Enough Loving People Serving (H.E.L.P.S.) servant of the Year award that will be presented during Camp Meeting. (These nominations must be submitted no later than May 5<sup>th</sup> of the annual church calendar year.)

C. During each Camp Meeting an award for Pastor of the Year is presented to a pastor in the state selected by the State Overseer.

1. Criteria for Pastor of the Year Nomination:

- a) Timely Church Reporting
- b) Timely Minister's Reporting
- c) Participation in State Programs
- d) Participation in National Programs
- e) Church Growth

- FINANCIAL SUPPORT

Given the fact that our state wants and needs to support ourselves financially we highly encourage all pastors and ministers to partner financially with the state office. This allows the State Overseer and Executive Offices to put forth the maximum effort of excellence for our state during camp meetings and other conventions at no or lower individual cost.

Therefore it is our recommendation that each church in addition to any love offerings for the state overseer send the below recommended contributions:

Conferences/Camp Meeting Recommended Contributions for Statewide	
Category	Recommended Contribution
#1 1-25 members	\$100.00
#2 26-50 members	\$150.00
#3 51-75 members	\$200.00
#4 76-150 members	\$300.00
#5 151-225 members	\$400.00
#6 226-300 members	\$500.00

- HOME MISSIONS

We need funds to reach the unchurched, revitalize our pastors and restore our facilities.

**Therefore, we** encourage each month as an act of faith, that each church send an additional 1% percent offering above the tithe to tithe to the state office as a contribution to the state office to support the statewide evangelism efforts.

That all ministers of the New Jersey Church of God be encouraged to support the HOME MISSIONS monthly as an act of faith, send an offering to the state office.

That each church be encouraged to support the Home Missions which will help us to Reach, Revilization, Restore (R3).

## STATE MINISTRIES

### STATE PRAYER COMMITTEE

Under the leadership of the State Prayer Committee Coordinator (appointed by the Administrative Bishop), each church is encouraged to commit to this ministry of prayer.

#### 2022-2024 STATE PRAYER COMMITTEE

Lisa Adams, Chairman

Joseph Theophilus

Phil Bonaparte

Patricia Bowden

Joe Hamblin

Kofi Matthew

Paul Lee

ValleRae Mundell

Our prayer focus will be for our state leaders, pastors, evangelists, ministry staff, for the growth and prosperity of the local church and the welfare of our country and training local church prayer leaders on how to pray biblically.

#### A. Prayer and Bible Reading

1. Each church shall emphasize the necessity of undergirding our evangelistic efforts with prayer by participating in the statewide prayer vigils to be held:
  - a) The first Wednesday of each month at the State Office via zoom or a designated location.
2. Local church prayer groups (such as men, women and teens) shall be organized for weekly study and prayer subject to the oversight and approval of the pastor as to the time, place, leaders, and materials to be studied.
3. All ministers and members of the Church of God in New Jersey are encouraged to observe the first Wednesday in each month as a day of prayer and fasting for the total outreach of all church ministries.
4. That we promote consistent daily Bible reading in the local church by using the One Year Bible.
5. The state office has a dedicated prayer line (732-765-8080 ext. 410) that is available 24 hours a day to leave prayer requests.

## **STATE SPIRIT LIFE COMMITTEE**

In addition to the State Prayer Committee the Spirit Life Committee is to help with ALTAR CALL prayer during statewide events. Under the leadership of the Administrative Bishop or the appointed chairperson when there is a need for the laying on of hands or special prayer the Spirit Life committee should be first to assist in this manner.

### 2022-2024 STATE SPIRIT LIFE COMMITTEE

Leanora Colley, Chairman

Ruth Adams

Jamie Bradham

Delores Mullings

Gerald Cobbs

Lee Von Wald Sr.

Lenroy Dawkins

Curdell Denton

Joan Hayden

### Duties and Responsibilities

The committee will, at the discretion of the Administrative Bishop, provide:

1. Mature guidance to those at the altar through prayer and/or the laying on of hands.
2. Provide guidance of how to grow in Christ once free from bondage.
3. Connect individuals with the local pastor or church.

## **STATE MINISTERIAL DEVELOPMENT BOARD**

The chair of the Ministerial Development Board shall coordinate the necessary programs for ministry advancement, such as Calling And Ministry Studies (CAMS) and Ministerial Internship Program (MIP), School of Ministry offers courses in Bible, doctrine, and practical ministry. The Mobilize program prepares laity for ministry in the local church. Also, Lee University and Church of God Pentecostal Theological Seminary.

### Duties and Responsibilities

The chair shall also be familiar with the Church of God Division of Education <https://www.cogdoe.org/> to include the DOE1 platform and assist pastors in providing education at every level and will introduce you on how to do futuristic ministry.

### MINISTERIAL CREDENTIALING SECRETARY

The credentialing of Church of God ministers is a ministry formation process. In this process, the denomination partners with the individuals in order to help them develop the abilities to fulfill their divine call and place in ministry.

### Duties and Responsibilities

The credentialing secretary of New Jersey Church of God works directly for the Administrative Bishop. The full details of duties and responsibilities are outlined in the job description.

1. After the state office receives background check approval from International Offices, the applicant (and spouse) will be eligible to begin the CAMS program. Click here for information regarding CAMS. As part of the application process, the individual desiring credentials must submit to a background check. Upon receipt of the completed application and the \$150.00 background check fee, the state office will send the paperwork to International Offices and ask them to initiate the background check. The background check may take from six to eight weeks.



**Please Note:** If either the applicant or spouse has had a previous marriage, additional paperwork will have to be completed, and the couple will be required to meet with the Licensure Review Committee prior to initiation of the background check.

### STATE CALLING AND MINISTRY STUDIES (CAMS)

Helps the applicants determine if they are called to clergy ministry, as well as providing knowledge about ministry. There are two sections to CAMS—seminars and individual study. The three seminars, which are attended by both applicants and spouses, provide tools so that the applicants identify if they are called to clergy ministry.

#### 1. STEPS IN CAMS PROCESS

Anyone interested in enrolling in CAMS is encouraged to talk with their Pastor. The Pastor will contact the credentialing department at the state office to request an application.

2. New Minister applicants who have limited ministerial experience may be required to complete the MOBILIZE Leadership Program under the direction of their pastor prior to entering the Calling and Ministries Studies (CAMS) program. The decision to require the MOBILIZE program will be made by the Administrative Bishop in consultation with the CAMS and MIP Coordinators.

### Duties and Responsibilities-Cordinator

Conduct CAMS pre-interview to ensure that the candidate understands the purpose of CAMS. To facilitate or designate someone to facilitate at all three seminars to include venue and meal locations. Coordinate with CAMS Administrator for exit interviews to see if the candidates should move forward to test for Exhorter's rank.

### STATE MINISTERIAL INTERNSHIP PROGRAM (M.I.P.)

All exhorters seeking advancement to Ordained Minister shall complete the MINISTERIAL INTERNSHIP PROGRAM (MIP) *See Church of God General Assembly Minutes S21. Applicants for Ministry II. Internship Requirements.* The Ministerial Internship Program is required in order to advance from exhorter rank to the status of ordained minister.

MIP is comprised of three parts:

- (1) Studies on the Bible, doctrine, and leadership;
- (2) a supervised practicum with a pastor; and
- (3) eight monthly seminars.

The studies are completed through individual study by using the Internet study venue or the DVD study venue. MIP candidates are assigned to supervising pastors who will provide knowledge about ministry and give opportunity to develop skills for ministry during a supervised practicum. The assignments of MIP candidates to supervising pastors are made on the basis of personal training needs, geographical factors, and availability. The eight monthly seminars cover a range of materials that address ministry topics and issues. The seminars complement and add to the experience of the supervised practicum.

During the MIP, the candidates and spouses follow a daily schedule of spiritual, study, and physical assignments. These involve the completion of studies, the supervised practicum, the eight seminars, and evaluations by the supervising pastor, as well as interviews at the monthly seminars.

### Duties and Responsibilities-Coordinator

The coordinator with the Administrative Bishop shall determine the supervising pastor of the intern. They must facilitate or designate someone to facilitate at all eight seminars to include venue and meal locations. Coordinate with MIP Administrator to ensure that the intern is on schedule to complete all internet work in a timely manner for graduation.

### STATE CHAPLAINS COMMISSION

Church of God Chaplains serve around the world as Vocational Chaplains and Community Service Chaplains. They are fulfilling the Church's missional mandate to take the hope of the Gospel outside the doors of the local church into the society in which we live. The Chaplains Commission is the ministry of the Church of God that provides the official endorsement for ordained ministers to fill positions as Vocational Chaplains and certifies the training for Community Service Chaplains.

#### 1. WHAT IS A COMMUNITY SERVICE CHAPLAIN?

- a. Community Service Chaplains are men and women who are dedicated to the spiritual.

#### 2. WHERE CAN A COMMUNITY SERVICE CHAPLAIN VOLUNTEER?

- |                                  |                        |
|----------------------------------|------------------------|
| 1. Hospitals                     | 7. Homeless shelters   |
| 2. Jails and prisons             | 8. University campuses |
| 3. Juvenile detention facilities | 9. Industries          |
| 4. Hospice                       | 10. Athletic teams     |
| 5. Emergency Service Agencies    | 11. Fire departments   |
| 6. Disaster areas                | 12. Nursing homes      |

These are a few of the many agencies, institutions, and community outreaches you will find the opportunity to serve as a volunteer chaplain. Chaplaincy can happen wherever a need arises.

### **STATE MEDIA AND COMMUNICATIONS TEAM**

Exploring the best media choices available to enable the transforming of the gospel message to all mankind and cultural contexts. Empowering churches, pastors and evangelists to take full advantage of Facebook, Instagram, Tik-Tok, radio, television and new emerging technology for communicating the gospel and promoting the work of Christ.

#### 2022-2024 STATE MEDIA AND COMMUNICATIONS TEAM

Ritz Denton, Chairman

Philip M. Bonaparte II

Larry Jules

Soby Kurvilla

Lloyd Robotham

Corvena Francis-Denton

### **STATE FINANCIAL RESOLUTION COMMITTEE**

The Administrative Bishop shall appoint a State Representative (Chairman) and not less than three (3) people be to consult on all building projects that require a loan and/or underwriting to include New Church Plants.

## 2022-2024 STATE FINANCIAL RESOLUTION COMMITTEE

Doug Adams  
Phil Bonaparte

Headley Mundell  
Hortense Carty

### Duties and Responsibilities

The committee will, at the discretion of the Bishop, provide:

1. Counsel with the local pastor and building committee on presentation to the State Council.
2. Review drawings and plans of the intended project.
3. Assist in the bidding process of approved projects.
4. Consult during the building process of the approved building project.
5. Ensure that finances are adequate to move into a building project.

## **STATE CHURCH PLANTING AND REVITALIZATION TASK FORCE**

The Administrative Bishop shall appoint biennially, a Strategic Church Planting and Revitalization Task Force consisting of the and five Ordained Ministers or Ordained Bishops and one member from the State Council.

### 2022-2024 TASK FORCE

Lynford Jamieson  
Jamie Bradham  
Paul Taylor

Jason Wheble  
Axel Goehring  
Gary Mullings

### Duties and Responsibilities

Coordinate an ongoing church planting and revitalization strategy in New Jersey.

1. Coordinate and implement a recruiting strategy to build a team of church planters, identify New Jersey churches in need of revitalization and lead pastors in need of coaching and mentoring.
2. Coordinate an ongoing church planter and revitalization training and coaching process that encompasses prelaunch, launch and post launch aspects of a new church plant and implements systems of health for churches in need of revitalization.
3. Coordinate a network system for both church planters and pastors in the revitalization program in order to provide support and supervision.
4. This task force will give oversight to church planting in New Jersey, including distribution of funds, approval of candidates and identifying strategic locations to plant churches.

## **STATE USHER COMMITTEE**

The Administrative Bishop shall appoint the chairman of the usher's committee. The chairman shall make sure that there are ushers at every statewide event. It is the responsibility of the chairman to recruit credential ministers when the committee is not available.

### 2022-2024 STATE USHER COMMITTEE

Jerome Robinson, Chairman  
Alexander McKenzie, Co-Chair      Winston Anderson  
Peter Ababio                              Karon Archer

Alex Ashish	Florence Henry
Winter Bijou	Donazal Jackson
McClendon Bowden	Saida Jeudy
Robinson Cerat	Headley Mundell
Charles Kopack	Cyprian Nwodo
Patrick Faustin	Melanie Stimphil
Shawgy Frimpong	
Larue Hayden	

**Duties and Responsibilities**

Greets patrons and assists them in finding their seats. Assists guests with locating exits and amenities such as restrooms and concession areas. Assists guests with limited mobility or other special needs to and from their seats. Ensures that aisles, walkways, and designated seating areas are clear, clean, and safe. And all other duties as assigned by the event coordinator.

**STATE HOSPITALITY COMMITTEE**

The Hospitality Committee ensures standards of continuous quality improvement are met and provides leadership for outstanding customer service to the state’s special guest. The State Ministries Director along with the State Secretary Treasure will brief necessary members of the committee of their specific assignments. We ask that all members of the hospitality committee make themselves available for service at all statewide events.

2022-2024 STATE HOSPITALITY COMMITTEE  
Carlene Moore, State Coordinator Assistant  
Paul & Aloma Taylor, Executive Transportation  
Ralston & Stacy Denton, Executive Transportation  
Martin & Kennesha Sampson, Guest Assistance  
Marcia Saintubert, Guest Assistance  
Donnie Anderson, Stage Coordinator  
Axel Goehring, Assist Stage Coor.  
Daniel Wilson, Food & Beverage

**Duties and Responsibilities**

Provide personal assistance to all special guests in any and all areas of hospitality, to include transportation to and from airport lodging, event venue and finding their assigned seating. This committee also has the responsibility of providing all required customer services to our special guests including accommodation book sales, food and drinks.

**STATE MWOA (MEN & WOMEN OF ACTION) COMMITTEE**

Men and Women of Action (MWOA) provides an opportunity for men and women to volunteer their skills in building projects around the world. Even though our main emphasis is coordinating construction teams, we also work with disaster relief and recovery, humanitarian projects, celebration teams, and discipleship training.

2022-2024 STATE MWOA (MEN & WOMEN OF ACTION) COMMITTEE (cont. on next page)

John Pavlov, Chairman      Jason Smith  
Lynford Jamieson, Co-Chair      Martin Sampson  
Joe Hamblin

### Duties and Responsibilities

That Men and Women of Action Ministry be officially organized on the state level, and each church be encouraged to organize the Men and Women of Action ministry at the local level in the Church of God in New Jersey. Further, that each church, pastor, and layperson give the highest priority to this ministry by submitting names to the State MWOA Coordinator as requested. Each church is encouraged to send delegates to the Men and Women of Action Rally and attend the Men and Women of Action rally on the designated date. For more information visit the Men and Women of Action website at: [www.cogmwoa.org](http://www.cogmwoa.org).

#### A. The MWOA objectives are:

1. To assist the State Office with the virtually untapped resource - the men and women in the state as volunteers, locally, and internationally.
2. To make the State Office aware that MWOA belongs to the local church – it's their program and their resource.
3. To encourage every state to have an active MWOA state program led by a qualified construction and disaster relief coordinator.
4. To appoint someone as MWOA State Coordinator who is already doing MWOA ministry in the state. We can provide a list of active dedicated people who have hands-on experience and leadership training.

Assist the pastors of the state with construction, renovation, and repairs on church and parsonage projects. Local assistance for decoration or remodeling can be asked of Vera Allen (Spotswood COG). Local handyman renovations can be asked of Franklyn (Word of Faith COG).

## **STATE YOUTH MINISTRIES**

The State Youth and Discipleship Program makes an effort to align with events and programs put on by the New Jersey Administrative Bishop and International Church of God Youth and Discipleship Director. That the resources on the Church of God Youth and Discipleship website be the first resource used to develop state programs.

### 2022-2024 STATE YOUTH MINISTRIES COMMITTEE

Nicholas Bowden - Summer Camp/Summerfest  
Lloyd Robotham - Teen Talent  
Monique McBean - WinterFest  
Stacy Denton - TOOLS Conference

Scarov Victor - Youth Missions Chairman  
Jerry Paul - Youth Convention  
Chris Tamas - Summer Camp/Summerfest

YOUTH MINISTRIES - [newjerseycog.org/youth-discipleship](http://newjerseycog.org/youth-discipleship)

### Duties and Responsibilities

#### A. Summer Camp/Summerfest

- a. That each church and pastor promote the summer camp ministry and that enthusiastic

interest be given to encourage the youth to attend.

- b. That each State Youth Board Member be encouraged to work at least one week, if needed and possible. Each pastor should assist the youth department in the recruitment of competent persons to serve on the Youth Camp/Summerfest staff.
- c. That when a pastor signs the application for an applicant from the local church, whether a camper or a staff, this is to be considered a recommendation of that person. ALL STAFF MUST SUBMIT TO A BACKGROUND CHECK with; protectmyministry.com.
- d. That the place, number and dates of youth camps/Summerfest events be left to the Youth and Discipleship Director and the State Youth and Discipleship Board, with the approval of the State Overseer.

#### B. Teen Talent and Junior Talent

- a. That we encourage our young people to become involved in Teen Talent to enhance talents and skills and glorify God. Further, that each area of competition be included in the state Teen Talent program; music, art, writing, drama and Bible.
- b. That we provide an option to an off year Junior and Teen Talent program to encourage the development of talent in our children and teens.

#### C. Premier Winterfest

- a. That each local church encourages the youth leader and youth to attend Premier Winterfest at Ocean City, Maryland as a winter retreat activity and that promotion be given to this event.

#### D. Training Our Own Leaders (TOOLS)

- a. Local Church Leadership
  - i. That a Training Our Own Leaders (T.O.O.Ls) conference be planned for the purpose of giving assistance to our local churches in the proper development of church leadership and its role in the local setting. TOOLS is a day set aside just for YOU to engage in robust dialogue and learn from and with your peers – from a variety of ministries and roles.
- b. That each church pastor and laity get training in various areas of ministry.
- c. TOOLS will assist each local church to help the launch of a training program for parents that would help to improve the relationships with their teenagers and to instruct their teens to positive biblical morality (see *61st General Assembly Minutes Resolution*).
- d. The youth ministries will ask that each local church be encouraged to join the Church of God National Youth Leaders Association (NYLA). <http://nylaconf.com/>
- e. That we have a renewed emphasis placed on the New Jersey Youth Leaders Association and that each local church strives to have a minimum of one active member in the association.
- f. That the Youth Ministry Certification program be used as a developmental tool for excellence in youth ministry in our local churches.

#### E. Camp Meeting Activities

- a. That youth activities be planned as the schedule allows and under the approval of the Administrative Bishop, such activities should include: Kids' Camp Meeting for ages 6-10, Afterglows, Awards, etc.

#### F. Annual Family Day (in conjunction with Orphan Run For Hope)

- a. That we continue to support and plan some type of Family Day outing for our state, on the Saturday of Camp Meeting when feasible, for the purpose of undergirding and supporting the family unit and underscoring its importance.

#### G. Young Adults Ministries

- a. That each church emphasizes and supports single adult ministries.
- b. That a state singles ministry committee be appointed by the State Youth and Discipleship Director, under the supervision of the Administrative Bishop, for the purpose of working with the director and State Youth and Discipleship Board in the carrying out of our state singles ministry.

#### H. Collegiate Ministry

- a. Local churches establish campus outreach ministries in area colleges and universities and involve students in local church ministries.
- b. That each church encourages their junior and senior high students to attend Lee University Day each spring and where possible, provide support for their attendance of the same.
- c. That each local church honors college graduates in the Graduates Recognition Sunday each year.

#### I. Boys Ministries

- a. That every church endeavors to sponsor a club ministry program for boys in their local church and community. That consideration should be given to the review of the Royal Rangers boys club.

### **STATE YOUTH MISSIONS COMMITTEE**

The Youth Mission Committee will help to make sure that Youth and young adults take advantage of the short-term missions' experiences offered by Youth Missions: [www.cogyouth.org](http://www.cogyouth.org). The youth missions committee will ask each local church to utilize the Youth and Discipleship Video to promote the department's ministry of YWEA.

#### 2022-2024 YOUTH MISSIONS COMMITTEE

Scarov Victor, Chairman  
Karon Archer

Aloma Taylor  
Marcia Saintubert

### **STATE CHILDREN'S MINISTRIES**

That each local church places a priority on Children's Ministries and planning a comprehensive program. Each church uses materials which are designed to bring all our children to salvation, sanctification, the baptism of the Holy Spirit, water baptism, church membership and discipleship by age twelve.

1. When possible, each church sponsors an annual VBS (Vacation Bible School) or Kids Crusade. And that a special plan be outlined to enroll unchurched children; and that a report on VBS be sent to the State Youth and Discipleship Director.
2. That we encourage those individuals who are called to the children's ministry to accept the call

and challenge, and that we support them and assist them with preparation and training. (Reaching, Teaching, and Pastoring Kids is a certification program used for training local children's workers). Those completing levels II and III can be certified through the National Children's Leaders Association.

3. During Camp Meeting and Prayer Conference worship services, a kids service should also be provided for ages 6-12.

### **STATE GIRLS MINISTRIES COORDINATOR**

Girls Ministries is an outreach of the Department of Youth and Discipleship to assist the local church in mentoring girls on their journey as Christ followers. The wife of the State Director of Youth & Discipleship or a woman assigned by the State Women's Ministries Director serves as State Girls Ministries Coordinator. She is to promote Girls Ministries: YLM's, Joy Belles, Blue Belles and Little Sweethearts. The Youth and Discipleship Director shall serve as ex-officio board member by virtue of his position. The State Girls Ministries Board shall biennially be appointed by the State Women's Ministries Director and the Girls Ministries Coordinator. The Board shall consist of five women. No board member shall be eligible to serve more than three consecutive terms.

#### 2022-2024 STATE GIRLS MINISTRIES BOARD

Tashane Wyles, Coordinator  
Lauren Elgin (JOY)  
Benita Daniels (Mount Bethel)

Cashna Victor (Trenton Haitian)  
Georgia Sicard (Paterson)  
Kennesha Sampson (New Hope)

#### Duties and Responsibilities

Girls Ministries endeavors to provide club-based curricula (and more) that employs relevant, life-applicable lessons according to God's Word. The result is thousands of young lives flourishing into spiritually pure, strong and dedicated women. That each local Women's Ministries engage in teaching the principles of scripture to girls and young women according to Titus 2:3-5 and that the State Girls Ministries Coordinator and/or the International Department of Women's Ministries Director be consulted for appropriate materials and ideas for such ministry.

#### A. Girls Ministries Activities and Awards

1. It is recommended:
  - a) That each church strives to promote Girls Ministries in their local church. And that each church submits a name and address to be sent to the Girl's Ministries Coordinator.
  - b) That the Girls Ministries in each church set aside a time in February to promote National Girls Ministries Week.
  - c) That a Statewide Girls Ministries Activity is to be held each year.
  - d) That Ministries and counselors be recognized at the yearly Girls Ministries event.
2. Awards that can be earned:
  - a) Translation of Literature
  - b) Girls Ministries Home Missions



- c) YLM of the Year
- d) Joy Belle of the Year
- e) Blue Belle of the Year
- f) Counselor of the Year for each Girls Ministries

**FOR YOUR INFORMATION: Child and Youth Sexual Abuse**

*Lawsuits against ministers and churches, as it relates to sexual abuse of minors, are on the increase. This is a subject that every pastor and lay leader must become more informed about. I am asking every pastor and church to begin now, taking steps that can help make the church safe from child sexual abuse. You will find that these lawsuits are almost always based on the negligence of the church and/or pastor in the areas of screening and supervising workers. The first step every church should take is to prepare a proper application form for all church workers. It is necessary that the two legal questions concerning a conviction record and child abuse conviction be included on the application. It is necessary for your protection and the protection of the church, to have every church worker (volunteer or compensated) to fill out a screening form. This includes those who are presently working in the church and those who desire to become workers in the church. Those who are working with children and youth should be interviewed in more detail. If a person has been convicted of sexual abuse of a minor, they are never to be used by the church to work with children or youth in any capacity. A complete background check should be made on anyone who is going to work with minors' protectmyministry.com is one screening company to consider. The check should include talking with pastors of churches where the person has attended in the past.*

**STATE WOMEN'S MINISTRIES**

That the New Jersey State Women's Ministries promote the programs outlined by International Women's Ministries. That each local Women's Ministry supports the international church theme: **Harvest 2024**, and that they support all international and state projects in the 2022-2024 General Assembly period. The State Women's Ministries Director shall biennially appoint a State Women's Board. The Board shall consist of five women. No board member shall be eligible to serve more than three consecutive terms. The Board shall work with the direction of the State Women's Ministries Director. Each Board member must be a promoter of the Women's Ministries programs and must have an active local Women's Ministries.

**2022-2024 STATE WOMEN'S MINISTRIES BOARD**

<u>Lorna Burch, Director</u>	<u>Deon Dawkins</u>
<u>Tashane Wyles, Ex Officio</u>	<u>Altagrace Faustin</u>
<u>Lisa Adams</u>	<u>Vallerae Mundell</u>
<u>Tracey Bonaparte</u>	
<u>Support Team - Debbie Robinson, Admin</u>	<u>Gwendolyn Wilson, WM Asst.</u>

**Duties and Responsibilities**

**State Program - [newjerseycog.org/women](http://newjerseycog.org/women)**

To encourage each local church to organize and maintain a ministry which shall be generally known as Church of God Women's Discipleship Ministries. Where a ministry of this type is functioning under a different name, it may continue, if they so desire" (77<sup>th</sup> Edition, 2018, pp. 166-168).

**A. IN AN ASSEMBLY YEAR**

Women's Ministries Conference/Retreat will be held in April. In the fall, a one or two day conference in the fall preferably the first weekend of October.

**B. IN A NON-ASSEMBLY YEAR**

There will be an April Worship Event and a Fall Retreat or Conference in September/October and plan to attend the International Women's Conference event.

**C.** That a Ministers Wives Session be added to the biennial Ministers meeting or scheduled shortly after Ministers Meeting that is facilitated to still enable the credentialed women to vote.

**D. District Women's Ministries Leaders**

That the wife of the District Overseer serves as the District Women's Ministries Leader. She is to promote the State Women's Ministries programs and be responsible for leadership in her district. In the event the District Overseer's wife is unable to serve, recommendations should be made by the District Overseer to the Administrative Bishop for a replacement.

That the District Women's Ministries Leader duties shall be as follows:

- a. Be knowledgeable of the Women's Ministries Programs.
- b. Encourage the pastors' wives in her district.
- c. To assist in organizing a Women's Ministry in each church.
- d. To promote and encourage each local Women's Ministry to support the state and international programs.
- e. To have one (or more) district activity per year.

**E. Annual Awards**

That the Women's Ministries annual awards be distributed at the annual Women's Ministries seminar/convention or State Campmeeting. The purpose of awards is to simply give recognition for exceptional participation in the following categories:

- a. Total monies raised
- b. Church of God Home for Children (Smoky Mountain HFC)
- c. New Jersey Home Missions
- d. Covenant Sister Ministry
- e. WWAM (Women With A Mission) Project

**F. WD - Awards**

i. That awards be presented in the following categories, based on morning worship attendance:

- |            |           |
|------------|-----------|
| 1. Group 1 | 1 - 50    |
| 2. Group 2 | 51 - 100  |
| 3. Group 3 | 101 - 200 |
| 4. Group 4 | 201 - 300 |
| 5. Group 5 | 301 - UP  |

**Standard of Excellence Awards**

A letter of appreciation to be sent from the State Women's Ministries Department to each local Women's Ministry receiving a scoring rank. Scores will be based on the results of the Standard of Excellence Check-Up Sheet to be mailed to the State Office by date specified.

**G. Monthly Reports**

Women's Ministries reports should reach the state office postmarked by the 5<sup>th</sup> of each month. Each local Women's Ministries be encouraged to tithe in keeping with scripture, and this tithe accompanies the report along with contributions made to any other designated area as per report form each month.

#### **H. State Office/Parsonage**

That the Women's Ministries be encouraged to take on a Home Missions project to assist in the provision of the state office and parsonage by holding two fund raisers each year at the local level. 50% of funds raised should be sent to the State Women's Ministries Department, and 50% remain in the local Women's Ministries treasury.

#### **I. International Women's Conference**

That the pastor's wife, along with the women of each church be encouraged to attend, where feasible, and that the local church assist the pastor's wife with expenses, when possible. That International Women's Conference, designed to minister to the special needs of women and to help them discover their gifts in order to minister to this generation, has our participation; and be encouraged and promoted in the local churches.

#### **J. Women With a Mission (WWAM)**

That each women's ministry participates in the Women With A Mission Project. The 2022-2024 Women with a Mission project is, #020-8203 Ukraine: The Journey Home. There are some 100,000 orphans in need in Ukraine. With your support, we will rebuild lives, reestablish families, and provide transportation, clothing and food that will sustain these children throughout their journey home. Go to International Women's Ministries website [cogwomensministries.com](http://cogwomensministries.com) or contact our state office for promotional materials.

#### **K. Bible Study**

That each local Women's Ministry conducts a monthly group Bible study, encouraging scripture memorization and personal daily Bible devotions. Please contact our state office or go to <https://www.adultdiscipleshipcog.com/womens-discipleship-1> for discipleship resources.

#### **L. Prayer and Fasting**

That each local Women's Ministry encourages one day weekly for fasting and prayer.

#### **M. Smoky Mountain Home for Children**

That each local church, in keeping with the scriptural mandate to care for the fatherless (e.g., James 1:27), regularly supports the Smoky Mountain Children's Home. It is further recommended that each local church receive an offering for such case on Mother's Day according to the Minutes of the General Assembly (49<sup>th</sup> A., 1962, p.37 as quoted in 71<sup>st</sup>, 204, p.147: "Mother's Day shall be set apart as Home for Children Day, and a special offering shall be received for the Home for Children.")

#### **N. Covenant Sisters**

The States and churches within the United States are divided into four Covenant Groups of 10 to 12 states. Sometimes because of a catastrophic event or a special need within a mission or borderline mission state others in their covenant group are asked to assist them. When you give to Covenant Sisters, we are helping states financially with their women's events and projects. New Jersey is assigned to 1st Assistant General Overseer Raymond & Debbie Culpepper's Covenant Team which includes the following states/regions: Arkansas, Caribbean, Heartland Region, Kentucky, Mississippi, New Jersey, New Mexico, New York, North Western Hispanic, Rocky Mountain Region, New England Northern, Tennessee and Texas.

#### **O. Women in Ministry Conference**

That every female minister in the state be informed of the International Women in Ministry Conference sponsored by the Department of Evangelism and Home Missions.

## **MEN'S DISCIPLESHIP**

That State leadership, District Overseers and all local pastors and churches in New Jersey renew their commitment to the priesthood and servanthood of all believers by seeing that the local congregation is led and directed by those whom the Holy Spirit has gifted and empowered for service.

### **Duties and Responsibilities**

That each church be encouraged to organize a Men's Discipleship Ministry in their local church. And that each church charter their Men's Discipleship group with the International Headquarters in Cleveland, Tennessee.

1. That each church be encouraged to organize a special day each year for the Men's Discipleship Ministry to encourage your men to participate in the statewide Men's Resurrection Breakfast held annually the Saturday before Easter.
2. Encourage local pastors to seek certification as community service chaplains in the local areas to evangelize men who may be in hospitals, prison/jails, mental health centers and nursing homes.
3. All Men's Discipleship' materials and information may be obtained through [www.adultdiscipleshipcog.com](http://www.adultdiscipleshipcog.com).

## **STATE SPIRIT CARE MINISTRIES**

The Spirit Care Ministry is a ministry that touches the heart of God. It is a ministry, which is part of the Center for Ministerial Care, with headquarters in Cleveland, Tennessee. The New Jersey State Spirit Care Ministries Leaders, **Bishop Ritz and Rev. Corvena Denton** along with the entire state office team are dedicated to provide assistance to retired ministers, their wives and widows of the New Jersey COG.

### **Duties and Responsibilities**

To encourage all local pastors and churches in New Jersey give full financial support to the Reformation Sunday Offering (October of each year) and that pastors and state leaders seek to identify, encourage and make use of the talents of retired ministers and their spouses through every means possible.

#### **I. Organize Spirit Care Ministry for Retired Ministers**

- A. Providing financial assistance when needed.
- B. Providing adoption programs for each of our retirees and widows for the Thanksgiving and Christmas holidays, seeing that they are greatly blessed.
- C. Keeping our retired ministers informed quarterly, of events taking place throughout the NJCOG and in the lives of their peers, as well as the General Church.
- D. Making personal contacts to each of the retirees and widows, making sure they are doing well and to give them encouragement.
- E. Providing special gifts during Christmas holidays, as well as, at other events.
- F. Agree to pray with and for Retired Ministers and Widows and for Spirit Care as we seek, under God, to address the needs of our venerable retired ministers and widows.

#### **II. Retired Ministers**

- A. During the annual Ministers' Christmas Banquet all retired ministers and widows shall be

honored with a Christmas Gift Honorarium or given a complimentary ticket to attend.

- B. Special attention will be given to ministers to our retired ministers in New Jersey, and we encourage our pastors to be mindful of the vast resource of wisdom and experience that our retired ministers possess. Further, each pastor is encouraged to allow these seasoned ministers to assist them when needed.
- C. Each church is encouraged to adopt a retired minister or minister's widow and further is encouraged to support them monthly. Further, a list of these persons will be provided to local churches.

### **MINISTRY TO THE MILITARY**

The Ministry to the Military exists to establish and maintain CARING New Testament fellowships, in COOPERATION with a network of like-minded groups, in order to REACH ALL PEOPLE for Christ and to TRAIN leaders for the Kingdom. The State Administrative Bishop appoints a State Coordinator for the Ministry to the Military.

#### 2022-2024 MINISTRY TO MILITARY TEAM

Lee W. Von Wald Jr., Chairman  
Ralston Denton

Doug Adams  
Chris Fraley

### **Duties and Responsibilities**

Encourage pastors to honor Armed Forces personnel within their congregations.

- A. Keep members informed of opportunities for fellowship while on active duty with the armed forces (Church of God Servicemen's Centers, Pentecostal fellowship groups and military contact churches, retreats in overseas areas).
- B. Encourage churches to sponsor an annual Ministry to Military Day.
- C. Encourage churches to support Church of God MTTM-- <https://mttm.org/>

### **LOCAL CHURCH**

#### **Statement of Pledge**

WHEREAS, the Church of God was conceived in a spirit of prayer and revival, and  
WHEREAS, the Church of God has been nurtured through the years upon the infallible truth of God's  
Word, and

WHEREAS, the Church of God has been empowered by the Holy Spirit a commissioned to share the  
full gospel message to a lost and dying world,

WHEREAS, the Church of God stands at the threshold of the eminent of our Savior,  
BE IT THEREFORE RESOLVED, that we, the ministers and laity of New Jersey Church of God area,  
pledge to give ourselves the next two years to a n dedicated life of prayer, fasting, Bible study, and  
Godly living in orde revival to individual hearts, families and churches throughout this area.

#### **1. Ministry**

Each local Church Treasurer and Pastor's Council/Elders shall be notified that all pastors are expected to attend and to represent the local church at the Regional Ministers' Meeting, Prayer Conference/Minister's Retreat, Camp Meeting and the General Assembly. We encourage local churches to assure that their pastors are properly financially cared for at such meetings. Each

church is encouraged to set up a Pastoral Expense Fund. The following procedures for establishing such a fund shall be considered:

- a. A special offering each month.
- b. A set amount per week from the General Fund.
- c. A percent of all Sunday morning and Sunday evening offerings, (the amount to be determined by the local church and council/elders), unless such offerings are designated for some other purpose than for the support of the local church.
- d. The tithing of Sunday school offerings. The surplus tithes, where available.
- e. Where funds are available, each church shall provide a parsonage (including utilities) or an adequate housing allotment for their pastor, and the church shall designate a portion of his/her income as housing allowance.

## **2. Vacations**

The Administrative Bishop suggests that each local church gives the pastor and his family at least two weeks' vacation with pay each year. Also, that he/she be given a love offering. It is recommended that a Church of God minister or member be the person to fill his/her pulpit in his/her absence.

## **3. Pastor and Family Appreciation Sunday**

In addition to the pastoral weekly compensation outlined in the Church Of God General Assembly Minute Book. Each church is encouraged to participate in the general church program of pastor appreciation by celebrating Pastor Appreciation Sunday each year on a date that is convenient and designated for the local church and approved by the pastor.

## **4. Church of God Benefits**

The church should also provide adequate funds towards the pastor Retirement Plan through the Church of God benefits board. Furthermore, pastors should encourage all minister's to participate in the same retirement plan.

## **5. Financial Aid to Attend General and State Meetings**

We recommend that each church earmark finances toward an offering for their pastor to attend general and state meetings. These monies could be raised through the Sunday School, Family Training Hour, Women's Ministries, special offerings and other sources.

## **6. Disorderly Ministers**

"...where ministers have had their ministerial credentials revoked for any cause and engage in ministerial activities in opposition to the Church of God, that our ministers and members be considered disloyal in promoting his ministerial activities." General Assembly MINUTES, 76th Section 30, page 109.

## **7. State Official Expense and Honorarium**

When the State Overseer, State Director of Youth and Discipleship, or District Overseer makes an official visit to a church, an offering shall be received to assist in defraying his expense, and honoring his ministry.

## **8. Financial Responsibility**

Every pastor shall be reminded that he/she is personally responsible for the "tithe of tithes" and Home missions coming into his church, and that should these funds be spent for any other

purpose, he can be charged with misappropriation of funds.

### **Percentage of Tithes to the State Office**

Whereas the Great Commission of the Lord Jesus Christ commits us as a church to the evangelism of the world, and

Whereas the Church of God in the state of New Jersey is responsible before God for the evangelization of the people of the state, and

Whereas the church is committed to this evangelization through the establishment of new churches in each community, and

Whereas evangelism is a most costly endeavor, with the support of new churches and vital concerns, and

Whereas the Church of God in the state of New Jersey is not financially strong enough to underwrite the endeavor of evangelism,

Be it resolved that we, the ministers of the Church of God in New Jersey adopt the following measure:

**Tithe Reduction Measure:** That each church in the state continue to forward to the state office a percentage that is 1% above the amount being sent to General Headquarters.

### **9. Financial Aid**

All applications and/or requests for financial aid shall be made to the state office through the District Overseer of the respective district. All petitions to the State Council for financial assistance shall become void at the close of each assembly period, and if desired, must be resubmitted.

### **10. Legal Church Transactions**

Church property deeds must be recorded and locations and plans for new church buildings, parsonages, additions, or major remodeling shall be submitted to and approved by the State Administrative Bishop, State Council and District Overseers, with periodic checks by the District Bishop. The State Council will serve as the State building committee and use the New Jersey State Building guidelines when approving all building programs, purchase of property, and loans.

Each pastor shall familiarize himself with the laws of the state of New Jersey before negotiating property transactions, electing trustees, and buying or selling church properties. It must be approved by the Circuit Court in the county or city where the transaction is taking place and the State Office.

### **11. Excluding Members**

That before any action is taken on excluding members, the local pastor shall notify the District Overseer no less than three weeks prior to said conference. Also, each pastor shall clear this with the State Overseer before turning out the members. We must take the scriptural approach to excluding members.

## **12. Treasurer Eligibility**

The spouse of a pastor shall not serve as the treasurer of the church. (In the event that there is no one else qualified in the congregation to serve as church treasurer the spouse of the pastor may be appointed as treasurer after it has been discussed and agreed upon by the state overseer and the pastor.

## **13. Reporting And Records**

All churches shall have a bank handle their financial transactions, and all disbursements shall be made by checks signed by the pastor and treasurer.

1. Minister's, Treasurer's and Women's Ministries' reports shall be mailed no later than the fifth (5th) of the month. The pastor shall give special attention to seeing that reports are mailed on time, and reports that require his signature must be properly signed.
  2. All checks, money orders, and other negotiables for the State Office are to be made out to: New Jersey Church of God. Churches are encouraged to send all special offerings or monies to the State Office for any purpose along with the church treasurer's monthly report.
  3. Each pastor is to be sure that the 5% tithe of tithes, respectively by the fifth (5th) of each month. Further, the use of the 5% tithes monies for any other purpose will be considered misappropriation of funds.
  4. Consistency/Lack of Consistency in Reporting. The principle of local churches giving a tithe of their tithe for worldwide ministry has been a part of Church of God practice from its earliest days. As a scriptural principle (Genesis 14:18-20; 28:20-22; Malachi 3:10; Luke 11:42; 1 Corinthians 9:69; 16:2; Hebrews 7:1-21) and an approved program of the General Assembly, it provides a way for each local church to have a part in contributing to the worldwide ministry of the church. Through faithfulness and consistency in this practice, the local church extends its ministry far beyond its own borders and releases God's blessing in the same way that a church member's practice of tithing brings blessings into his personal life.
- A. Where there is delinquency in local church reporting (reports and/or finances), the following procedures will be followed:
1. When a church is two months delinquent in reporting, the District Overseer shall meet personally with the pastor relative to correcting the matter.
  2. When the church is three months delinquent the Administrative Bishop shall convene a board of inquiry shall be appointed to investigate and make recommendations.



3. Should the delinquency continue, a state board shall be appointed to consider filing appropriate charges.
4. If the foregoing investigation has proven to be the fault of the pastor, he shall not be considered for any appointment or position until proper disposition has been made for payment of the delinquent funds.
5. Accumulated Delinquent Funds

#### **14. Publicity and Public Relations**

1. That churches avail themselves of all advertising media, such as social media, newspapers, highway signs, listings in yellow pages of telephone directories, hotel directories, etc.
2. That each church displays suitable identifying and directional signs.
3. Whereas some Church of God members are compelled to move from one locality to another for employment, and whereas in many instances commuting is impossible, consistent and regular church attendance are imperative for a balanced and wholesome Christian character, maturity, and fruitfulness.
4. We recommend that members who move from one locality to another for employment be encouraged by the pastor of the church from which the member moves, to transfer his church membership to the church to which he has moved.
5. When members relocate each pastor be encouraged to go to the Church of God website **[www.churchofgod.org](http://www.churchofgod.org)**, click directory, then click local churches, and assist the member relocating in finding a church of God close to their new home.

#### **15. Local Church Evangelism**

Special emphasis shall be placed on church membership by all pastors and evangelists. Opportunities for church membership is to be given at least monthly in every church in keeping with the New Testament practice (Acts 2:47), and each church is to strive to increase its membership by at least 10% annually. An increase in church membership is to be stimulated by:

1. Frequent opportunities by pastor
2. Cultivating possible candidates
3. Efforts of conservation
4. Emphasis during revival campaigns
5. Distribution of suitable literature

And furthermore that each church set a goal to have a 10% increase in the following areas of ministry for each of the next 2 years:

- New Converts
- Baptism with the Holy Ghost with evidence of speaking in other tongues as the Spirit gives the utterance
- Reaching Prodigals
- Water Baptism
- Tithing and Giving
- World Missions Giving
- New Churches Planted
- Sunday Morning Worship

- Sunday School
- F.T.H.

#### A. Training and Conservation

1. A concentrated effort is to be launched to prevent the high attrition rate of members through:
  - a. Visitation of detached members
  - b. Consistent follow-up of new members
  - c. New convert classes
  - d. Care by older church members
  - e. Indoctrination
2. Each church is encouraged to have a training course in personal evangelism each year.
3. Each pastor is to emphasize the value of family worship and seek to establish a family altar with daily prayer and Bible reading in the home of every member of the congregation.
4. That each local church where possible provides new converts with Your First Steps, a comprehensive guide for new Christians. You may order these from Pathway Press.

#### **16. Revivals and Soul-Winning Emphasis**

That each church prays for revival and every effort be made to bring the church to a point of revival through relationships and friendship evangelism events.

1. That each church endeavors to have at least two revivals or special evangelistic weekend efforts per year.
2. That each church be encouraged to participate in the National Revival Thrust, beginning Palm Sunday and continuing through Pentecost Sunday.
3. The church encourages members to participate in a Family revival in November of each year in order to bring our children and members of our extended families to a saving knowledge of Jesus Christ.

#### **17. Pastoral Change**

The Administrative Bishop is required to fully inform any pastoral candidate of the current financial condition of the prospective church prior to finalization of said candidate's appointment.

- a. Where there has been an accumulation of delinquent funds from a local church for which the present pastor is not responsible, the following procedures are recommended:
  - i. The Administrative Bishop, or a committee appointed by him, shall meet with the current pastor to study the situation and make recommendations for appropriate resolution of the problem according to one of the following options:
    1. Immediate Payment
    2. Payment Plan
    3. Partial payment and partial assistance
    4. Full assistance to be given when the above options have been exercised, and it is beyond the ability of the local church to satisfy the delinquent debt within a maximum period of twelve months.

**NOTE:** There is no provision for forgiveness of ministry money owed. However, assistance may be provided through funds from (1) an individual, (2) another local church, (3) the State Office, (4) International Headquarters, or any combination of the above.

- ii. When all other sources for payment of the delinquent amount have been exhausted, the Administrative Bishop shall have the right to appeal to the Secretary General with a proposal providing for mutual participation in the payment of the accumulated delinquent funds. Further, a standing committee of action chaired by the Secretary General is to be appointed by the General Overseer to consider and make final disposition of such proposals. No church shall be permitted to launch a building program until plans of the program have been submitted to and approved by the District Overseer, State Building Advisory Committee and the Administrative Bishop. Further, no church may be permitted to launch a building program that would obligate it to pay on monthly installments an amount equal to more than two percent (2%) of its gross tithes during the past twelve months, unless authorized by the Administrative Bishop and State Council. Deeds with reverting clauses shall be referred to the Administrative Bishop and State Council before further building commences.
- iii. Pastors are responsible for reporting to the District Overseer and Administrative Bishop any mortgage payments or other church payments over one month in arrears. Further, pastors are required to furnish a financial report to the State and District Overseer prior to his moving. Report forms shall be provided by the State Office.
- iv. Before a pastor is granted a move to another church, that an accurate report of all back payments, such as church payments, parsonage payments, notes due, tithes both to General and State, etc., shall be given to the Administrative Bishop and to the incoming pastor.
- v. All deeds on new local church property are to be submitted to the State Office for approval before they are recorded in their respective counties. Copies of the Local Church Warranty Deed forms are available at the State Office.

### **INTERCULTURAL MINISTRIES**

The mission of New Jersey Church of God Intercultural Ministries is to provide intentional support by collaborating within the state to effectively reach and network with representatives of various ethnic groups in New Jersey. To provide sustainable models of ministry resources that elevate evangelism and discipleship to reach, expand and impact ethnic groups of the Church of God.

2022-2024 INTERCULTURAL MINISTRIES (cont. on next page)

Haitian Ministries Coordinator - Joseph Noncent  
Indian Ministries Coordinator - Rajan Skaria  
Hispanic Ministries Coordinator - VACANT  
Indonesian Ministries Coordinator - Harbudi Rusli

### Duties and Responsibilities

Each leader should strive to support the vision of the COG Intercultural Ministries; “to see all cultures experience healthy and sustaining growth through holistic ministry”. Please familiarize yourself with [www.mission-northamerica.com/intercultural-ministries](http://www.mission-northamerica.com/intercultural-ministries)

1. Appoint liaisons to evangelize different cultures with the local church.
2. Encourage pastors to develop an Intercultural Ministry in the local church, thus enhancing their opportunity of reaching all cultures.
3. Pray for and participate in International Intercultural Ministries events.
4. Promote and utilize the help and resources of the Department of Intercultural Ministries in state programs and ministries.

### **Resolution in Regards to Sunday School**

WHEREAS, the Sunday School has proven to be the most effective teaching tool of the church in implementing Jesus' command to teach them to observe all things whatsoever I have commanded you; and

WHEREAS, according to Deuteronomy 31:12-13, God instructed Moses to gather the people so they could hear, learn, and observe to do all the Words of the Law; and

WHEREAS, teaching the Word of God protects our people from doctrinal error and deception which leads to spiritual captivity and destruction; and

WHEREAS, during the reign of Josiah, the Book of the Law was found in the house of the Lord and spiritual renewal came when the people were assembled for the reading of it (II Kings 22 - 23);

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Church of God reaffirms our commitment to the ministry of Sunday School; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that we continue to implement new methodologies of imparting God's Word as it relates to the daily life of the believer in changing times.

### **Resolution in Regards to Ministerial Engagements**

WHEREAS, the ministers of this state desire to promote unity and harmony amongst all.

WHEREAS, according to Romans 12:10 we are encouraged to love one another with brotherly affection, Outdo one another in showing honor

WHEREAS, we have given ourselves to lengthy discussions of promoting harmony and unity.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that all credential ministers in the New Jersey Church of God shall ascribe to the following practice of notifying their Lead Pastor prior to accepting ministerial engagements and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED Lead Pastors should also extend the same courtesy to each other.



New Jersey Church of God

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