



Network Council
2024
Resolutions

Michigan Ministry Network

**Resolution 1: Replacement of the Term “Revert”
(Constitution)**

- 1 WHEREAS the Network Constitution uses the word “revert” regarding the dissolution of the
2 Michigan Ministry Network property and assets going to the General Council, and
3
4 WHEREAS the term “revert” according to Merriam-Webster means 1. : to come or go back (as to
5 a former condition, period, or subject) 2. : to return to the proprietor or his or her heirs
6 at the end of a reversion, and
7
8 WHEREAS the Michigan Ministry Network could not revert to the General Council since the
9 General Council has never held such property, and
10
11 WHEREAS the term “revert” was also problematic when dealing with a Title company when
12 closing a church that was not originally titled to the Network, and
13
14 WHEREAS the General Council Constitution and Bylaws have changed from the term “revert”
15 and no longer use it, and
16
17 WHEREAS the IRS recommends this language: “assets shall be distributed,”

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19 therefore, be it

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21 RESOLVED that the Constitution, Assemblies of God, Michigan Ministry Network, ARTICLE XII.
22 DISSOLUTION CLAUSE, which reads,

23
24 **ARTICLE XII. DISSOLUTION CLAUSE**

25
26 In the event the Assemblies of God, Michigan Ministry Network, shall cease to
27 function for the purposes herein set forth, then all real, personal, intellectual,
28 tangible and intangible, or other property of whatever kind, and all assets remaining
29 after satisfying debts and obligations, shall revert to the parent body, The General
30 Council of the Assemblies of God, a Missouri non-profit Corporation, with
31 headquarters in Springfield, Missouri. The General Council shall have full authority
32 to sell such property and to use the proceeds derived thereof for the extension of the
33 work of the Assemblies of God. In the event of cessation of the Assemblies of God,
34 Michigan Ministry Network, its Board of Trustees shall transfer all properties and any
35 remaining assets, in accordance with the foregoing provisions, within one year after
36 the date such cessation. If such transfer is not made within the time prescribed
37 above, or if the aforesaid General Council shall be unable or unwilling to accept the
38 aforesaid transfer, then disposition thereof shall be made by the court of the county
39 in which the headquarters office of the Assemblies of God, Michigan Ministry
40 Network is located, provided that in such case proceeds of the dissolution shall be
41 distributed to organizations having purposes nearest the purpose of the Assemblies
42 of God.

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44 be amended to read:
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**Resolution 1: Replacement of the Term “Revert”
(Constitution)**

ARTICLE XII. DISSOLUTION CLAUSE

In the event the Assemblies of God, Michigan Ministry Network, shall cease to function for the purposes herein set forth, then all real, personal, intellectual, tangible and intangible, or other property of whatever kind, and all assets remaining after satisfying debts and obligations, shall ~~be distributed~~ ~~revert~~ to the parent body, the General Council of the Assemblies of God, a Missouri non-profit corporation, with headquarters in Springfield, Missouri. The General Council shall have full authority to sell such property and to use the proceeds derived thereof for the extension of the work of the Assemblies of God. In the event of cessation of the Assemblies of God, Michigan Ministry Network, its board of trustees shall transfer all properties and any remaining assets, in accordance with the foregoing provisions, within one year after the date such cessation. If such transfer is not made within the time prescribed above, or if the aforesaid General Council shall be unable or unwilling to accept the aforesaid transfer, then disposition thereof shall be made by the court of the county in which the headquarters office of the Assemblies of God, Michigan Ministry Network is located, provided that in such case proceeds of the dissolution shall be distributed to organizations having purposes nearest the purpose of the Assemblies of God.

*Submitted by the Michigan Ministry Network Presbyter Board
Supported by the Network Resolutions Committee*

**Resolution 2: World Evangelism Including US Missions and
Church Missional Plan Promotion
(Bylaws)**

1 WHEREAS the Network Bylaws still contains dated language like “foreign lands”, and the
2 wording does not line up with General Council Bylaws language, that use the word
3 “world”, and
4

5 WHEREAS the General Council Bylaws Article VIII, Section 5, subsection b. states, “b. Church
6 support. Every local church shall be encouraged to assume responsibility for support
7 of duly appointed missionaries and approved ministries in cooperation with
8 Assemblies of God World Missions.”, and
9

10 WHEREAS U.S. Missions is deemed important, just like World Missions, and
11

12 WHEREAS the method of raising missional support has many approaches, and the Network
13 Bylaws only encourage “The Faith Promise Plan,”
14

15 therefore, be it
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17 RESOLVED that the Bylaws, Assemblies of God, Michigan Ministry Network, ARTICLE XII. WORLD
18 EVANGELISM, Section 1, which currently reads,
19

20 **Section 1. Scope and Policy**
21

22 Since the Master has declared that the field is the world, the Michigan Ministry
23 Network Council shall assume the responsibility to do all in its power to spread the
24 full Gospel at home and in foreign lands.
25

26 be amended to read:
27

28 **Section 1. Scope and Policy**
29

30 Since the Master has declared that the field is the world, the Michigan Ministry
31 Network Council shall assume the responsibility to do all in its power to spread the
32 full Gospel at home in the United States and throughout the whole world. ~~in foreign~~
33 ~~lands.~~
34

35 and be it further
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37 RESOLVED that Section 3., subsection a., which currently reads,
38

39 **Section 3. World Missions Giving**
40

41 **a. The Faith Promise Plan.** Each Pastor is encouraged to receive annual faith promises
42 from the local church by presenting the faith promise program and ask individuals to
43 make commitments of specified amounts to be given through the church in the
44 regular missionary offerings.
45

**Resolution 2: World Evangelism Including US Missions and
Church Missional Plan Promotion
(Bylaws)**

46 be amended to read:

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48 **Section 3. Assemblies of God World and U.S. Missions Support Giving**

49

50 **a. Missionary and Ministry Support ~~The Faith Promise Plan.~~ Every local church shall**
51 **be encouraged to assume responsibility for support of duly appointed missionaries**
52 **and approved ministries in cooperation with Assemblies of God World and U.S.**
53 **Missions. It is the prerogative of each lead pastor and local church to present a plan**
54 **that promotes faith and generosity that will work best in their local church setting to**
55 **raise support for missional endeavors. ~~Each Pastor is encouraged to receive annual~~**
56 **faith promises from the local church by presenting the faith promise program and ask**
57 **individuals to make commitments of specified amounts to be given through the**
58 **church in the regular missionary offerings.**

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*Submitted by the Michigan Ministry Network Presbyter Board
Supported by the Network Resolutions Committee*

Resolution 3: Clarity for Nomination and Election of General Council Non-Resident Executive Presbyters (Bylaws)

1 WHEREAS the Network Bylaw regarding Non-Resident Executive Presbyter Nominations and
2 Elections is not clear regarding the process for nominations and elections, and
3

4 WHEREAS the term “Nominees” listed by subsection a., should be defined as “Great Lakes Area
5 Nominees,” and
6

7 WHEREAS the current placement of the phrase, “They shall be nominated in the following
8 manner:” that is stated under subsection b., originally was intended to be the
9 process for both Great Lakes Area Nominees and Additional Representation, and
10

11 WHEREAS additional wording would clarify the nomination and election process for the Great
12 Lakes Regional Nominees; also, the addition of a subsection would define the
13 process of nomination and election for both types of Nominees, and
14

15 WHEREAS the current language incorrectly states that the nominees are presented to the
16 General Council rather than to the General Presbyters as listed in the General
17 Council Bylaws,
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19 therefore be it
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21 RESOLVED that the Bylaws, Assemblies of God, Michigan Ministry Network, ARTICLE V.
22 ELECTIONS AND APPOINTMENTS, Section 5. Nominees for Non-Resident General
23 Council Executive Presbyter, which currently reads,
24

25 **Section 5. Nominees for Non-Resident General Council Executive Presbyter**
26

27 **a. Nominees.** At a Network Council prior to a General Council at which the election will
28 be held, two nominees from the Michigan Ministry Network, one of whom is not an
29 elected full-time official, shall be nominated by a two-thirds vote, to be presented to
30 the General Council along with nominees from other Networks in the Great Lakes
31 area, for election as Non-Resident Executive Presbyter. Any nominee must be a
32 member of the Michigan Ministry Network who is an ordained minister of mature
33 experience and ability and whose life and ministry are above question. There is no
34 minimum residency requirement.
35

36 **b. Additional Representation Nominees.** At a Network Council prior to the General
37 Council at which the election shall be held, three (3) additional nominees, one (1)
38 ordained pastor under 40 years of age at the time of election, one (1) ordained female
39 (no age requirement), and one (1) ordained African-American minister (no age
40 requirement) shall be nominated by a two-thirds vote, to be presented to the General
41 Presbytery. From the nominees, the General Presbytery shall select and submit to
42 the General Council four (4) names of ordained ministers under 40 years of age at the
43 time of election, four (4) names of ordained female ministers (no age requirement),
44 and four (4) names of ordained African-American ministers (no age requirement). The
45 candidates shall be presented to the General Council in session and voted on by

Resolution 3: Clarity for Nomination and Election of General Council Non-Resident Executive Presbyters (Bylaws)

46 secret ballot. A two-thirds vote shall be required to elect. Each nominee must be a
47 member of the Michigan Ministry Network who is of mature experience and ability
48 and whose life and ministry are above question.

49 They shall be nominated in the following manner:
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51
52 In the year in which a regular General Council is to be held, each Sectional Council
53 at its annual meeting prior to the next regular Network Council in session shall
54 receive a nominating ballot by secret ballot. They shall choose from a list of names
55 who qualify for each office under the above provision. All of those nominated will be
56 contacted by the Network Office, and only those willing to accept the nomination will
57 be presented to the Network Council as nominees. In each case, a two-thirds
58 majority of all votes cast shall be required to present the nominee to the General
59 Council. If such a majority shall not have been received by the first three (3) electoral
60 ballots, all candidates except the two (2) receiving the highest number of votes on the
61 third ballot shall be eliminated from further balloting, and the requirement for
62 election shall be reduced to a simple majority on the fourth electoral ballot. The
63 results of each electoral ballot shall be posted until an election is achieved.
64

65 be amended to read:

Section 5. Nominees for Non-Resident General Council Executive Presbyter

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68
69 **a. Great Lakes Area Nominees.** At a Network Council prior to a General Council at
70 which the election will be held, two nominees from the Michigan Ministry Network,
71 one of whom is not an elected full-time official, shall be nominated by a two-thirds
72 vote, to be presented to the General Council along with nominees from other
73 Networks in the Great Lakes area, for election as Non-Resident Executive Presbyter.
74 Any nominee must be a member of the Michigan Ministry Network who is an ordained
75 minister of mature experience and ability and whose life and ministry are above
76 question. There is no minimum residency requirement.
77
- 78 **b. Additional Representation Nominees.** At a Network Council prior to the General
79 Council at which the election shall be held, three (3) additional nominees, one (1)
80 ordained pastor under 40 years of age at the time of election, one (1) ordained female
81 (no age requirement), and one (1) ordained African-American minister (no age
82 requirement) shall be nominated by a two-thirds vote, to be presented to the General
83 Presbytery. From the nominees, the General Presbytery shall select and submit to
84 the General Council four (4) names of ordained ministers under 40 years of age at the
85 time of election, four (4) names of ordained female ministers (no age requirement),
86 and four (4) names of ordained African-American ministers (no age requirement). The
87 candidates shall be presented to the General Council in session and voted on by
88 secret ballot. A two-thirds vote shall be required to elect. Each nominee must be a
89 member of the Michigan Ministry Network who is of mature experience and ability
90 and whose life and ministry are above question.

**Resolution 3: Clarity for Nomination and Election of
General Council Non-Resident Executive Presbyters
(Bylaws)**

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c. Great Lakes Area and Additional Non-Resident Executive Presbyters They shall be nominated and elected in the following manner:

In the year in which a regular General Council is to be held, and a Non-Resident Executive Presbyter nominee is to be presented, each Sectional Council at its annual meeting prior to the next regular Network Council in session shall receive a nominating ballot by secret ballot. They shall choose from a list of people names who qualify for each office under the above provisions in subsections a. and b. All of those nominated will be contacted by the Network Office, and only those willing to accept the nomination will be presented ~~to the Network Council~~ as nominees to be voted on at the Network Council in session. In each case, a two-thirds majority of all votes cast shall be required to present the nominee to the General Presbyters of the General Council of the Assemblies of God. If such a majority shall not have been received by the first three (3) electoral ballots, all candidates except the two (2) receiving the highest number of votes on the third ballot shall be eliminated from further balloting, and the requirement for election shall be reduced to a simple majority on the fourth electoral ballot. The results of each electoral ballot shall be posted until an election is achieved.

*Submitted by the Michigan Ministry Network Presbyter Board
Supported by the Network Resolutions Committee*

**Resolution 4: Relocation of Bylaw Language for Sale of
Closed Church Property
(Bylaws)**

1 WHEREAS the Network Bylaws need to be clear, and
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3 WHEREAS the sections and numbering help bring that clarity, and
4
5 WHEREAS Article IX, Section 8 which states, *“It is recommended that all local churches of the
6 Michigan Ministry Network include the following in their Bylaws,”* and
7
8 WHEREAS not everything in Section 8 needs to be included in local church bylaws, and
9
10 WHEREAS a new section added to Article IX called “Sale and disbursement of closed church
11 assets” would allow current language in Section 8, subsection e., paragraph 3 and
12 below, to be moved into a new section numbered 9,
13

14 therefore, be it

15
16 RESOLVED that the Bylaws, Assemblies of God, Michigan Ministry Network, ARTICLE IX. LOCAL
17 CHURCHES, Section 8, subsection e., which currently reads,

18
19 **Section 8. Church Property**

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21 e. **Church Closing.** Should the church cease to function as an Assemblies of God
22 church for a period of ninety (90) days, title to all real, personal, intellectual, tangible
23 and intangible, or other property of whatever kind of the church shall revert to the
24 Assemblies of God, Michigan Ministry Network, an ecclesiastical corporation
25 organized under the laws of the State of Michigan with headquarters in Brighton,
26 Michigan.
27

28 It is the parent body for churches in Michigan and is an integral part of the General
29 Council of the Assemblies of God, whose national headquarters is in Springfield,
30 Missouri, organized exclusively to operate for religious purposes with tax exempt
31 status under Section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code.
32

33 The Assemblies of God, Michigan Ministry Network shall forthwith have full authority
34 to use or dispose of the property. Net proceeds from the sale or rental of any property
35 under this provision shall be used in the following manner.
36

- 37 1) 40% of the proceeds shall be designated for Church Planting in the Michigan
38 Ministry Network to help with the initial purchase of land, buildings, and/or
39 rental of buildings for new church plants. The Church Planting and
40 Development Board will make grants for new church plants under the policies
41 approved by the Presbyter Board.
42 2) 40% of the proceeds shall be designated to church recalibration in the
43 Michigan Ministry Network to help with building repairs, sound, video and
44 technology upgrades, operational expenses such as utilities and grounds
45 (winter/summer) maintenance. The Recalibration Board will make grants under

**Resolution 4: Relocation of Bylaw Language for Sale of
Closed Church Property
(Bylaws)**

the policies approved by the Presbyter Board. 20% of the proceeds shall be designated to Michigan Ministry Network Camps for debt reduction or capital improvements.

be amended to read:

Section 8. Church Property

e. Church Closing. Should the church cease to function as an Assemblies of God church for a period of ninety (90) days, title to all real, personal, intellectual, tangible and intangible, or other property and assets of whatever kind of the church shall revert to the Assemblies of God, Michigan Ministry Network, an ecclesiastical corporation organized under the laws of the State of Michigan with headquarters in Brighton, Michigan.

It is the parent body for churches in Michigan and is an integral part of the General Council of the Assemblies of God, whose national headquarters is in Springfield, Missouri, organized exclusively to operate for religious purposes with tax exempt status under Section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code.

Section 9. Sale and disbursement of closed church assets and property.

The Assemblies of God, Michigan Ministry Network shall forthwith have full authority to use or dispose of closed church assets and the property. Net proceeds from the sale or rental of any property under this provision shall be used in the following manner.

- 1)a. 40% of the proceeds shall be designated for Church Planting in the Michigan Ministry Network to help with the initial purchase of land, buildings, and/or rental of buildings for new church plants. The Church Planting and Development Board will make grants for new church plants under the policies approved by the Presbyter Board.
- 2)b. 40% of the proceeds shall be designated to church recalibration in the Michigan Ministry Network to help with building repairs, sound, video and technology upgrades, operational expenses such as utilities and grounds (winter/summer) maintenance. The Recalibration Board will make grants under the policies approved by the Presbyter Board.
- 3)c. 20% of the proceeds shall be designated to Michigan Ministry Network Camps for debt reduction or capital improvements.

and be it further

RESOLVED that any re-lettering or placement of subsections be appropriately located.

*Submitted by the Michigan Ministry Network Presbyter Board
Supported by the Network Resolutions Committee*

Resolution 5: Additional Reclassification of a General Council Church (Bylaws)

1 WHEREAS the Network Bylaws have reasons for reclassifying a General Council church to a
2 Network Affiliated church, and
3

4 WHEREAS a new category would allow the Bylaws to dictate a change in status so that it would
5 not have to wait for a Presbyter Board meeting, and
6

7 WHEREAS there are situations where a General Council church should automatically move to
8 Network Affiliated church, and
9

10 WHEREAS the General Council Bylaws state in Section 5. Guidelines for Minimal Membership
11 for General Council, Affiliated Assemblies, “If a General Council affiliated church is
12 unable to meet any of the criteria for affiliation as set forth in the Constitution, Article
13 XI, Section 1, paragraph a, it shall seek the assistance of the district officers for help
14 in maintaining the Bylaws minimal requirement for General Council affiliation. The
15 district may use any means prescribed by its bylaws to assist the church in returning
16 to a position of strength. If the minimal requirements have not been attained, the
17 church shall revert to district affiliated status until the minimal requirements for
18 General Council affiliation have been attained, unless an exception has been granted
19 by the district in accordance with the provisions of General Council Constitution
20 Article XI, Section 1, paragraph a, subparagraph (3).”, and
21

22 WHEREAS during pastoral transitions at some General Council churches, Network leaders
23 become aware that the church does not meet the requirement of 20 official members
24 as set forth by the General Council, and
25

26 WHEREAS when a General Council church no longer has a lead pastor and does not meet the
27 minimum requirement of 20 members, the church will need the help and assistance
28 of the Network, and
29

30 WHEREAS the change in status to Network Affiliated will give the church access to helpful
31 resources during the transition time and moving forward,
32

33 therefore, be it

34

35 RESOLVED that the Bylaws, Assemblies of God, Michigan Ministry Network, ARTICLE IX. LOCAL
36 CHURCHES, Section 2. Reclassification of Local Churches, add a new section after
37 section a.,
38

39 b. If a General Council church falls below the standards for its current classification, in
40 regard to the minimum membership required by the General Council, and the church
41 is without a lead pastor, the church will be immediately reclassified to a Network
42 Affiliated church. The church will return to its former status at the request of the
43 congregation and the approval of the Executive Board.
44

45 and be it further

46

**Resolution 5: Additional Reclassification of a General Council Church
(Bylaws)**

47 RESOLVED that any necessary re-lettering edits within this section be made.

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*Submitted by the Michigan Ministry Network Presbyter Board
Supported by the Network Resolutions Committee*

Resolution 6: Hospitality

1 WHEREAS Grand Rapids First Assembly has worked diligently in preparation and in hosting this
2 annual 80th Network Council of the Assemblies of God, Michigan Ministry Network,
3 and we have been blessed with a time of fellowship, encouragement, worship, and
4 inspiration, and
5

6 WHEREAS many individuals have utilized their giftings and abilities to help make this Council a
7 wonderful success,
8

9 therefore, be it
10

11 RESOLVED that the Assemblies of God, Michigan Ministry Network Council conveys its
12 appreciation to Pastor Sam Rijfkoegel, the Official Board, Church Staff, the Worship
13 Team and Congregation of Grand Rapids First Assembly of God for the gracious
14 hospitality, consideration and the use of their facilities, which has made our stay
15 enjoyable and comfortable,
16

17 and be it further
18

19 RESOLVED that the Network Council express its sincere gratitude to all those, who through their
20 efforts this year, have honored the Lord Jesus Christ; and to our Network
21 Superintendent, Aaron Hlavin, for his leadership; and to the Executive Officers,
22 Presbyters, Committees, and Network Office Staff for their unwavering dedication,
23 excellent support and service throughout the Council.
24
25

26 *Submitted by the Michigan Ministry Network Presbyter Board*
27 *Supported by the Network Resolutions Committee*