

Extracts from ADCOM pertaining to Ordination

July 9, 1973

(A-30) WOMEN IN THE CHURCH--STUDY AND COMMITTEE PRADCO PREXAD

Agreed, To list for PRADCO a discussion of the desirability of setting up a study committee of theologians, administrators and others to formulate a recommendation to the General Conference Committee on the role of women in the church organization, particularly the subject of ordination of women. Further

Agreed, To request PREXAD to consider and appoint the personnel of the committee. (rhp)

Page: 73-10

August 20, 1973

(A-146) PARSONAGE ALLOWANCE--
NON-MINISTERIAL WORKERS G C STAFF KHE AGZ

Treasury has submitted the following recommendation regarding parsonage allowance for non-ministerial workers on the GC staff:

"We recommend, That personnel administration be requested to review and screen all cases of G C personnel who are ordained ministers but who are doing routine work and not performing ministerial or administrative duties and are consequently not eligible to parsonage allowance for tax purposes."

Agreed, To receive the recommendation and refer it to the standing Personnel Committee.

Page: 73-62

October 23, 1973

(A-264) MINISTERIAL CREDENTIAL QUESTION- -
GENERAL CONFERENCE PERSONNEL PRADCO

Personnel and Treasury have requested:

"That cases of General Conference ordained minister personnel who are doing routine work and not performing ministerial or administrative duties, be reviewed and screened for determining parsonage allowance eligibility for tax purposes."

Persons involved:

Chan, Lim-Shang	Institutional Services/ESDA:west
Reyes, Primitivo T	Transportation--New York
Scheller, O Kenneth	Transportation- -West
Slezak, Jakob Z	Transportation--New Yotk

Agreed, To list the question for the guidance of PRADCO, suggesting that until the standing committee on Licenses and Credentials adjusts the credential status of General Conference ordained personnel not engaged in ministerial work or administrative duties, such personnel be considered eligible for parsonage allowance. (wjh hdj)

Pages: 73-128-129

March 12, 1974

(A-522) RENEWING MINISTERIAL CREDENTIALS

PRADCO

Additional study needs to be given to the policy for renewing ministerial credentials for certain categories of workers who are not currently involved in ministerial work.

Agreed, To recommend to PRADCO that an ad hoc committee be asked to study the matter of renewing of ministerial credentials with a view to clarification of our policy as it relates to ordination and renewing of credentials.

Committee suggested: W DUNCAN EVA, C E Bradford (sec), L L Bock, J W Bothe, N R Dower, K H Emmerson, C O Franz, Edwin Gibb, M E Kemmerer, J C Kozel, Robert H Pierson, Neal C Wilson. (jwb)

Pages: 74-70-71

August 8, 1974

(A-800) KINDS OF ORDINATION
COMMITTEE (AD HOC)

DHB FCW

Agreed, To request the Chairman to name a small committee to prepare a statement on the kinds of ordination in the Seventh-day Adventist Church. (wde)

Committee named: D H BAASCH, F C Webster (sec), R W Olson.

Page: 74-214

April 7, 1975

(A-1131) UNORDAINED PASTORS

WDE BES

The NAD Union Presidents, at their meeting March 4-6, 1975, requested that the standing Church Manual Committee give study to the subject of unordained pastors. Present practice allows for unordained pastors to be elected and ordained as elders of local churches. The practice is acceptable where the unordained pastor serves a single congregation, but becomes complicated when his district includes two or more churches. The action of the NAD Union Presidents reads:

"Agreed, To request the standing Church Manual Committee to study the subject of unordained pastors with a view to providing proper church authority for pastors in this category. The following suggestions may be considered:

1. A worker appointed by the conference as a pastor, even if he is not ordained, may be recognized as the leader of that congregation and the person responsible to the conference and the congregation for their overall program.
2. Grant unordained ministers, appointed by a conference to serve as pastor of a congregation, the privileges and responsibilities of a local elder without being so elected by their congregation."

Agreed, To receive the study request and refer it to the standing Church Manual Committee.
(jwb)

Page: 75-106

March 10, 1975

(A-795) WAGE SCALE PERCENTAGE
FOR ORDAINED MINISTERS

RHP AEG

An ad hoc committee appointed to study the question of establishing more than one category in the wage scale percentages for ordained ministers, submitted a report.

(Copy of the report on file with the office copy of the minutes.)

Agreed, To receive the report and refer it to PREXAD. (wde)

Page: 75-78

March 24, 1975

(A-1095) CREDENTIALS/LICENSES COMMITTEES
-- LAYMEN SERVING ON

PRADCO

The standing Church Manual Committee has recommended study of the question of laymen serving on committees at which the ordination of ministers is considered.

Agreed, To list the subject for consideration of PRADCO. (bes)

(A-1096) ORDINATION OF LOCAL ELDERS
-- BY WHOM TO BE PERFORMED

OUP SM 75 AEG

The standing Church Manual Committee has suggested that an editorial revision of the Church Manual, page 81, lines 16 and 18, to make even clearer the fact that ordinations of local church elders always be performed by an ordained minister, and not be delegated to a local church elder, although such will usually be invited to participate in the ordination service.

Agreed, To refer the subject to the Officers and Union Presidents meeting, Spring Meeting, 1975. (bes)

Pages: 75-90-91

March 27, 1975

(A-1115) CHRISTIAN RECORD BRAILLE
FOUNDATION -- ORDINATION GUIDELINES

MSN CEB

The Christian Record Braille Foundation Board has requested the General Conference to give study to the various categories of workers in the Christian Record Braille Foundation to determine which ones, if any, could lead to ordination to the Gospel Ministry. Agreed, To receive the request and refer it to the standing Credentials and Licenses Committee. (cdh)

Page: 75-98

June 16, 1975

(A-800) ORDINATION OF DEACONESSES

HOO SESSION 75 AEG

The standing Church Manual Committee, in harmony with the '75 Spring Meeting action on the Role of Women in the Church has prepared a statement on the ordination of deaconesses. Agreed, To list the statement on the Ordination of Deaconesses for the meeting of the Home and Overseas Officers, which will meet prior to Session '75. (bes)

Page: 75-158

November 10, 1975

(A-1392) WORKERS ORDAINED TO THE WORLD FIELD

PRADCO

Richard Hammill, President of Andrews University, has requested that study be given to including a statement in the General Conference Working Policy and the Ministers' Manual stating that in the Seventh-day Adventist Church, ministers are ordained to serve the world Church, suggesting a statement such as the following:

"Workers are ordained to the gospel ministry to serve the world Church. In accepting ordination they become subject to direction from the Church in regard to the place where they minister for the Church. Those who accept ordination, recognize they may be expected to serve the Church as pastors and preachers of the Word even if, when ordained, they are serving in specialized ministries of the Church."

Agreed, To recommend to PRADCO that an ad hoc committee be appointed to study the inclusion in the General Conference Working Policy and the Ministers' Manual of a statement

setting forth the concept that ministers ordained in the Seventh-day Adventist Church are ordained to serve the world Church.

Committee suggested: M S NIGRI, J W Bothe (sec), C E Bradford, W J Brown, N R Dower, Edwin Gibb, C D Henri. (aeg)

Page: 75-262-262

December 11, 1975

(A-1022) PRISON CHAPLAINS

PRADCO

On February 5, 1975, PRADCO (75-20) requested the National Service Organization, plus others, to study the question of whether Seventh-day Adventist ministers employed as full-time prison staff chaplains, might do so on a basis similar to military chaplains. The committee submitted the following report:

"WHEREAS, it is necessary for an ordained minister to be endorsed by his denomination if he is to serve as a chaplain in a Veterans' Administration Hospital or correctional institution and,
"WHEREAS, it is customary for other churches to issue this endorsement through the same body that endorses their military chaplains,

"WE RECOMMEND,

1. That while we do not actively promote this type of service for our ordained ministers, we nevertheless recognize that it affords a unique opportunity for missionary endeavor.

"2. That qualified men with a mature Christian experience, who carry a special burden for this type of ministry, be endorsed for such service. Endorsement shall be by the General Conference Committee upon recommendation of the National Service Organization.

"3. That after such an endorsement is granted the National Service Organization be the designated body within the church to transmit this endorsement to the appropriate agency.

"4. That those ordained ministers so endorsed receive their credentials from the General Conference while employed as chaplains as long as they remain in good and regular standing.

"5. That no denominational service credit shall be granted in respect of service as a Veterans' Administration Hospital or correctional institution chaplain."

Agreed, To receive the report and list it for PRADCO. (wde)

Pages: 75-286-287

January 8, 1976

(A-812) BIBLE TEACHERS (ACADEMY)

OUP SM 76 AEG

An ad hoc committee on Bible teacher training submitted the following report:

"The committee expressed its belief that a Bible teacher in a Seventh-day Adventist academy should not only have evangelistic soul-winning experience prior to active teaching,' as expressed in Action 75-1 of this committee, but that he should also be an ordained minister. Based on this

"We recommend, To the North American Division union presidents and to the General Conference officers the following plan for their consideration:

1. That all aspirants to the teaching of Bible in secondary schools be encouraged to obtain field preparation for their work by participating in the regular denominational internship plan.
2. That the General Conference be requested to add ten more internships to the present total, to be utilized in field who use young ministers as Bible teachers in the secondary school system.
3. That conferences that utilize ministers as academy Bible teachers within two years after their ordination to the ministry, shall receive one of these special internships in addition to their regular denominational ministerial internships."

Agreed, To receive the report and to list it for consideration by the Officers and Union Presidents prior to Spring Meeting '76. (wjh)

Pages: 76-5-6

March 22, 1976

(A-1548) ROLE OF WOMEN IN THE CHURCH
-- AD HOC STUDY COMMITTEE

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On recommendation of the Biblical Research Institute Administrative Committee,
Agreed, To recommend to the General Conference Committee the appointment of an ad hoc study committee on "The Role of Women in the Church" to meet at Andrews University, April 1 (7:30 pm) - 5, 1976.

Committee recommended: W DUNCAN EVA, Gordon M Hyde (sec), J J Blanco, T H Blincoe, C E Bradford, J J C Cox, R F Dederen, Larry Geraty, Jerry Gladson, F Guy, G F Hasel, F B Holbrook, S H Horn, Paul Landa, A G Maxwell, LaVonne Neff, D F Neufeld, R W Olson, W F Specht, K L Vine, K H Wood, E E Zinke. (ahr)

Page: 76-52

April 22, 1976

COMMITTEES DISCHARGED

MSN AHR

Agreed, To discharge the following ad hoc committees:

- | | |
|--------|--|
| X-887 | Doctrinal Views -- Papers (Work finished.) |
| A-1548 | Role of Women in the Church (Committee met at AU. Need not convene again.) |

Page: 76-81

July 26, 1976

(A-1769) INTERNSHIPS FOR WOMEN MINISTERS

PRADCO

The Ministerial Training Advisory Committee has requested the General Conference to establish internships for women ministers which should not be open to men, and to encourage conferences to use these internships to avail themselves of still untapped talents of young women who want to serve the Church in the capacity of (unordained) ministers,
Agreed, To receive the request and list it for consideration by PRADCO, with the suggestion that a committee be appointed to give the subject further study. (jwb)

Page: 76-187

September 2, 1976

(A-1769) WOMEN IN CHURCH MINISTRY

NRD

The North American Division Convention on Higher Education submitted a recommendation on the subject of providing women more opportunities for service and leadership roles in the Church.

Agreed, To receive the recommendation and refer it to the Ministerial Association, with the suggestion that this be coordinated with other proposals that are under consideration. (msn)

Page: 76-215

November 4, 1976

(A-1929) ORDINATION DEACONS AND ELDERS
-- STUDY COMMITTEE

PRADCO

The field has asked questions regarding ordination of local elders and deacons in the light of authority extended licensed ministers by Annual Council 1976.

Agreed, To request PRADCO to appoint an ad hoc committee to consider questions involved in the matter of ordination of local elders and deacons. (ceb)

Page: 76-270

March 10, 1977

(A-1548) FUNCTION AND ROLE OF WOMEN

OUP SM 77

Agreed, To list for the meeting of Officers and Union Presidents at Spring Meeting 77 the subject, "Function and Role of Women." (ncw)

Page: 77-59

April 25, 1977

(A-2113) ORDINATION OF PHYSICIANS--
POLICY ADJUSTMENT HOOUP

AC 77

An ad hoc committee submitted the following report regarding the Ordination of Physicians:

ORDINATION OF PHYSICIANS

This committee was appointed by the Credentials and Licenses Committee to give study to the following questions:

1. What is the procedure to follow and the philosophy that we adhere to in the ordination of physicians?
2. What is the Spirit of Prophecy counsel regarding the ordination of physicians?

Spirit of Prophecy Counsel

- a. Every physician can and ought to be a Christian, and if so he bears with him a cure of souls as well as bodies. He is doing the work of an apostle as well as of a physician.--Letter 36, 1893.
- b. When one goes out as a physician, gospel teacher, and canvasser, he should be fully empowered to do the work of a minister. When under his labors souls accept the truth and give evidence of true conversion, he is to baptize them in the name of the Father, the Son, and the Holy Ghost. --Ms 55, 1901.
- c. The work of the true medical missionary is largely a spiritual work. It includes prayer and the laying on of hands; he therefore should be as sacredly set apart for his work as the minister of the gospel. Those who are selected to act the part of missionary physicians, are to be set apart as such. This will strengthen them against the temptation to withdraw from the sanitarium work to engage in private practice. --Evangelism 546.

Agreed, To recommend that the following be inserted in the GC Working Policy p 186, par 1, and NAD Working Policy p 246, par 1, after the words "institutional leaders" --and denominationally employed physicians/ dentists. . .-

Agreed, To receive the report and to list it for consideration by the Annual Council 77 meeting of Home and Overseas Officers and Union Presidents. (ceb)

Page: 77-96-97

April 25, 1977

(A-2114) QUALIFICATIONS FOR ORDINATION
--POLICY AMENDMENT HOOUP

AC 77

Agreed, To recommend to the Home and Overseas Officers and Union Presidents at the time of Annual Council 1977, amendment of the policy, "Qualifications for Ordination," (GCWP 182-187; NADWP 242-247) to read as follows: (jwb)

This counsel lays a definite obligation on the leaders in charge of an ordination service. They should plan for the examination of candidates in such a way as to make this important procedure not simply perfunctory but a true evaluation of the candidate's fitness. Sufficient time for careful evaluation should be made available, particularly in cases where a number of candidates are to be examined. Wherever possible the candidate should plan to have his wife present for the examination, realizing that ordination affects not only the individual but the entire family.

Undue haste has sometimes been apparent in recommending candidates for ordination. On the other hand, there has also been undue delay, extending as long as twenty years and more. Both these attitudes are wrong. Although no worker should be hurried into ordination, it is just as important that when a man is ready to be thus set apart, the service should not be unduly delayed. Embarrassment has been brought to workers at times because of being unable to perform certain important ministerial responsibilities. However, the fact that a ~~ministerial trainee~~ licensed minister has spent four, five, or even eight years in the field is of itself no guarantee that he is ready for ordination. One with less ability for evangelistic preaching or less aptitude for other lines of ministerial and pastoral work than some others will naturally take longer to develop. Indeed, some may never qualify for ordination. Those who do not reveal particular ministerial talent and aptitude for definite public leadership should be encouraged to develop as personal soul winners, recognizing that their call is to some other work less distinctly ministerial.

Conference/mission presidents and executive committees should recognize their responsibility to foster the growth of young ministers and see to it that they are given opportunities for ~~developing to their full ministerial capacity~~ development. Any plan that diverts the minister-to-be from his actual training and growth is to be discouraged. Injustices have been perpetrated when ~~ministerial trainees~~ licensed ministers possessing manual skills have been asked to spend long periods serving in other capacities to the neglect of their ministerial development. Such a plan may save the conference money, but it delays the development of the minister.

When a conference gives a young man a ministerial license it should be recognized as a pledge on the part of the conference leadership to foster that worker's growth. And when a man accepts a ministerial license he should regard it as a pledge on his part to render the utmost service of which he is capable. Such a license, however, is not a commitment on the part of a conference that ultimate ordination is assured. It merely provides the opportunity for the licentiate to prove his calling. Although all cannot have the same conditions under which to develop into mature ministers, a man who is called of God will reveal his calling by his whole manner of life and the burden he carries for those who are still in the prison house of sin. In some circumstances it is difficult to provide conditions under which public evangelism as such can be carried out, but he who is called of the Lord will be able to give proof of his calling and of his aptness for the ministry as a lifework.

In some areas of the world field educational facilities are somewhat limited. If that is the case, it will naturally take longer for a minister to develop his readiness for ordination. Therefore, in consideration of all the varied conditions, it is impossible to specify any definite

length of time for the ~~training period~~ professional development and spiritual growth of the licentiate. The fact that a licensed minister is assigned to overseas service should not of itself delay his ordination beyond the time it would have ordinarily taken place. His service record should be passed along to the new field and his development receive proper evaluation. In suitable cases a licensed minister who is approaching ordination at the time of his foreign call may be ordained prior to departure.

Pages: 77-99-100

April 25, 1977

(A-2115) LICENSED MINISTER--ROLE
AND STATUS--NEW POLICY

HOO AC 77

Agreed, To recommend to the Home and Overseas Officers meeting at the time of Annual Council 1977 the new policy addition entitled, "Licensed Minister-role and status," (76 AC 52-54) to be inserted in the GC Working Policy following the section, "Safeguarding Credentials -- the Integrity of the Ministry," (GCWP 188-190) as follows: (jwb)

1. In certain circumstances the responsibility and authority of the licensed minister may be extended to include the performance of specific functions of the ordained minister in the churches to which he is assigned. This responsibility belongs to the division committee which shall clearly outline for its territory the ministerial functions which may be delegated to licensed ministers, taking into account:
 - a. The length and extent of its ministerial training program.
 - b. The needs of its fields allowing for the distribution of their membership, the number of churches and the ministerial help available.
 - c. Any special circumstances that demand special consideration.
2. In delegating ministerial functions to licensed ministers the following prerequisites shall be satisfied in all divisions:
 - a. The licentiate shall have completed the prescribed ministerial training requisites of the Seventh-day Adventist Church as defined by the division committee for its territory. Exceptions must be approved by local and union committees within guidelines established by the division committee.
 - b. He is the recipient of a ministerial license.
 - c. He has been appointed by the conference/mission executive committee to a ministerial or pastoral responsibility.
 - d. He has been elected as a church elder in the churches, or named in the companies to which he is assigned.
 - e. He has been ordained as a local church elder.

The conference/mission executive committee shall authorize, in harmony with the division policy, what functions of the ordained minister the licensed minister may perform.
3. A licensed minister's leadership progress, professional development and spiritual growth will be reviewed annually by the conference/mission administration and executive committee.

4. A licensed minister's authorization to serve as a minister of the gospel and to perform functions of an ordained minister may be withdrawn by the conference/mission executive committee.

5. A licensed minister is ordinarily ordained to the gospel ministry after he has satisfactorily fulfilled a period of pastoral/evangelistic service during which time he has given evidence of his call to the ministry. The spiritual rite of ordination constitutes the official recognition by the Seventh-day Adventist Church of his divine call to the ministry as a life commitment, and is his endorsement to serve as a minister of the gospel in any part of the world.

Pages: 77-101-102

April 25, 1977

(A-2116) LICENSED MINISTER --ROLE AND STATUS--NEW POLICY

OUP AC 77

Agreed, To recommend to the meeting of Officers and Union Presidents at the time of Annual Council 1977, the addition of the new policy (with amended Paragraph I.a.) entitled, "Licensed Minister-- Role and Status" (76 AC 52, 53) to be inserted following the section "Safeguarding Credentials --the Integrity of the Ministry" (NADWP 248, 249) as follows: (jwb)

1. A person is recognized as a minister of the gospel in the North American Division of the Seventh-day Adventist Church when all the following prerequisites have been satisfied:

a. Completion of the prescribed ministerial training requisites of the Seventh-day Adventist Church (Bachelor of Arts degree with a major in Bible or religion plus nine quarters in the SDA Theological Seminary), or two years of employment in ministerial or pastoral work or a total of two years of seminary training and employment in ministerial or pastoral work. Until this prerequisite has been met, the person will receive a missionary license.

b. Recipient of a ministerial license.

c. Appointment by the Conference/Mission Executive Committee to a ministerial or pastoral responsibility.

d. Election as a church elder in the churches, or named in the companies to which he is assigned.

e. Ordination as a local church elder.

2. A licensed minister is authorized by the Conference/Mission Executive Committee to perform all the functions of the ordained minister in the churches or companies to which he is assigned.

3. A licensed minister's leadership progress, professional development and spiritual growth will be reviewed annually by the Conference/Mission administration and Executive Committee.

4. A licensed minister's authorization to serve as a minister of the Gospel and to perform all the functions of an ordained minister may be withdrawn by the Conference/Mission Executive Committee.

5. A licensed minister is ordinarily ordained after a period of about four years of field experience. This spiritual rite of ordination constitutes the official confirmation of the Seventh-

day Adventist Church of his divine call to the ministry as a life commitment, and is his endorsement to serve as a minister of the Gospel in any part of the world.

Pages: 77-102-103

September 26, 1977

(X-1845) CHURCH MANUAL AMENDMENT--
"LICENSED MINISTERS"

AC 77 PLANS

The standing Church Manual Committee recommends amendment of the Church Manual title, "Licensed Ministers" as follows:

RECOMMENDED, To amend "Licensed Ministers" (CM 185, 186) as follows:

LICENSED MINISTERS

To give young men an opportunity to demonstrate their call to the ministry, especially in the area of soul-winning, prospective candidates are granted ministerial licenses by the conference/mission. The granting of such licenses confers the opportunity and the right to develop the ministerial gift and to assist in the ordinances and services of the church such as the Lord's Supper, baptism, and the marriage ceremony. ~~Where there is no local elder he may, when authorized by the conference or division committee, preside at business meetings of the church but not at business meetings when members are disciplined request should be made to the conference president for an ordained minister to preside at such a meeting.~~ He ~~The licensed minister~~ is authorized to preach, to engage in evangelism, assist in a spiritual way in any church activities ~~and to lead out in missionary work, and especially to engage in evangelism to assist in any church activities.~~

~~He may be elected as a local elder of a particular church and ordained as such, provided arrangements have been made with the conference. In such a case he is vested with the authority of a local elder but no more. His ordination as local elder qualifies him to serve only in such churches as have elected him as their local elder, and then only on the advice of the conference committee or president.~~

~~Conference committees do not have the right to authorize a licensed minister to go from church to church baptizing or performing other church rites pertaining to the functions of an ordained minister. A conference committee action cannot be substituted for church election or ministerial ordination. Assignment of such worker to district leadership must not be made the occasion for unwarranted authorization in such matters.~~

There are circumstances, in many fields, however, where it is necessary for the conference/mission to appoint a licensed minister to carry responsibility as a pastor or assistant pastor of a church or group of churches. In order to open the way for him to perform certain ministerial functions, the church or group of churches he is to serve may elect him as a local elder. However, since he is employed by the conference/mission and appointed by it he represents it, and it may consider, in varying degrees as circumstances require that his authority and responsibilities should be extended in order to enable him to discharge his duties satisfactorily. The right to permit this extension of authority and responsibility rests, in the first

instance, with the Division executive committee. Its action is necessary before any conference/mission may extend the authority and responsibility of the licensed minister. Such action shall define specifically and clearly what additional ministerial functions a licensed minister may perform, but always on the understanding that his functions as a church elder and his extended functions be always and only within the church or group of churches which he serves.

In its actions the conference/mission committee shall not go beyond that which the division committee authorizes. It shall not authorize a licensed minister to go from church to church outside of the church or group of churches of which he is a local elder, performing church rites which pertain to the functions of an ordained minister. A conference/mission committee action cannot be substituted for church election or ministerial ordination.

AGREED, To receive the proposed amendment and to list it for consideration by the Annual Council 1977 Plans Committee.

Pages: 77-279-280

March 2, 1978

From Finance/ADCOM To PRADCO
(A-2440) TAX STATUS OF LICENSED AND
ORDAINED MINISTERS

RECOMMENDED, To reaffirm that all licensed ministers who are serving overseas will be treated as employees for tax purposes, and that any exceptions be approved by the standing committee on Adjustments and Allowances.

Further, that a physician who serves as a missionary overseas and is ordained, will enjoy the same privileges as an ordained minister in the North American Division. (wlm)

Page: 78-38

May 31, 1979

A 1929 ORDINATION DEACONS AND ELDERS- -
STUDY COMMITTEE, DISCHARGE

RECOMMENDED, To discharge ad hoc committee A 1929 Ordination of Deacons and Elders in view of its assignment having been fulfilled.

Page: 79-116

January 21, 1980

From Treasury/ADCOM to HDJ-Treasury

**A 3087 SOCIAL SECURITY ASSISTANCE--ORDAINED
MISSIONARIES**

RECOMMENDED, To refer the document, Social Security Assistance—Ordained Missionaries, to the Treasurers for study and for subsequent submission to the Annual Council Finance Committee.

(Copy on file with the office minutes.)

Page: 80-111

September 29, 1980

Education/ADCOM to CBH-PRADCO

A 3235 ORDINATION OF TEACHERS

RECOMMENDED, To develop a plan for the ordination of Seventh-day Adventist teachers to the teaching ministry.

Page: 80-175

March 16, 1981

NAD Admin/ADCOM to OUP 81SM

121-81 OVERSEAS TRAVEL PROGRAM INCENTIVES

RECOMMENDED, To review the overseas travel program incentives offered to ordained ministers in various North American conferences.

Page: 81-33

June 29, 1981

GC & NAD Un Sec/ADCOM to JWB-OUP 81AC

**208-81 LICENSED MINISTER--ROLE AND STATUS
- POLICY AMENDMENT**

RECOMMENDED, To amend NAD L 20 10, Authorized Ministerial Functions, as follows:

L 20 10 Authorized Ministerial Functions -- A licensed minister is authorized by the conference to perform all the functions of the ordained minister for the members in the churches or companies to which he is assigned and elected as a church elder.

Page: 81-85

May 21, 1984

PUCnf/CMC/ADCOM to CDW-GCDOUP84AC
ORDINATION OF MINISTERS - REVIEW OF PROCEDURE

The Pacific Union Conference has requested that the procedures followed for the ordination of ministers be reviewed.

VOTED, To refer this request of the Pacific Union Conference to the GCDOUP84AC.

Page: 84-70

September 24, 1984

NADOUP /A DCOM to DHB -GCDOUP84AC

247-84NG EXAMINATION OF CANDIDATES FOR ORDINATION -
POLICY AMENDMENT

RECOMMENDED, To amend NAD L 60-2, Examination of Candidates for Ordination, to read as follows:

2. The examination of candidates for ordination is conducted by ordained ministers, ~~only,~~ and ~~where there are present~~ if representatives of unions or the General Conference, are present, they should be invited to assist in the examination. Where it is deemed advisable by the conference executive committee, selected laymen may be invited to participate.

Page: 84-140

September 24, 1984

ADCOM to JWB-GCDOUP84AC

247 -84GN EXAMINATION OF CANDIDATES FOR ORDINATION -
POLICY AMENDMENT

RECOMMENDED, To amend GC L 50-2, Examination of Candidates for Ordination, to read as follows:

2. The examination of candidates for ordination is conducted by ordained ministers, ~~only,~~ and ~~where there are present~~ if representatives of unions, divisions, or the General Conference, are present, they should be invited to assist in the examination. Where it is deemed advisable by the conference/mission executive committee, selected laymen may be invited to participate.

Page: 84-140

March 26, 1986

GCO/GCD085GCS/85GCS/151-85Gz/ADCOM to CBR-GCDOUP86AC

117-86Gz ORDINATION OF DEACONESESSES - COUNSEL

The Church Manual Committee for the quinquennium 1980-85 recommended that the Church Manual section on The Deaconess (CM 94) be revised to incorporate the 1984 Annual Council recommendation that deaconesses be ordained (see GCC 84-399).

The 1985 General Conference Session rejected the recommendation. How shall the present Church Manual Committee proceed?

The pertinent paragraph in the Church Manual therefore continues to read as follows:

Deaconesses were included in the official staff of the early Christian churches (Romans 16:1, 2). Phoebe was a servant --servant in this instance meaning "deaconess"--of the church at Cenchrea. Other references indicate that women served in the early church as deaconesses. There is no record, however, that these women were ordained; hence the practice of ordaining deaconesses is not followed by the Seventh-day Adventist Church. (CM 94)

Pages: 86-115-116

October 29, 1991

ChMan/ADCOM to CBR&MV

THE MARRIAGE CEREMONY--SOUTH AMERICAN DIVISION REQUEST

VOTED, 1. To approve the placing of the following paragraph in a supplement in the South American Division's Church Manual if the Division so desires:

In the South American Division the Division Committee has not taken action to approve that selected licensed or commissioned ministers who have been ordained as local elders may perform the marriage ceremony. Therefore, in the South American Division this ceremony is to be performed only by ordained ministers.

Page: 91-176

August 18, 1992

ADCOM/ADCOM to AHT-GCDOUP92AC + 92AC

162-92G SUPPORTING MINISTRIES—GUIDELINES FOR INVOLVEMENT IN GLOBAL MISSION

RECOMMENDED, To adopt the document, Supporting Ministries—Guidelines for Involvement in Global Mission, to read as follows:

1. The leaders of the supporting ministries shall be loyal members of the Seventh-day Adventist Church in good and regular standing.
2. The theological positions of the supporting ministries and the emphasis placed upon them shall be those as set forth in the Fundamental Beliefs of the Seventh-day Adventist Church. Theological positions not addressed in the fundamental beliefs shall be treated as private beliefs and shall not be promoted to the point where they become divisive.
3. The leaders of the supporting ministries shall support and cooperate with the goals and purposes of the Seventh-day Adventist Church by words, actions, and publications. Their work shall positively supplement the work of the Church in carrying out the gospel commission.
4. The supporting ministry leaders, ordained or unordained, shall not represent their supporting ministry as an official church project.

Page: 92-225

September 1, 1992

PRE/ADCOM to LR

MINISTERIAL ORDINATION COMMITTEE (ADCOM-A)- APPOINTMENT

Requests have come to the General Conference to ordain men who may not be involved in full-time ministerial work. In light of the actions taken at the 1985 Spring Meeting, 1985 General Conference Session, and 1985 Annual Council to institute a reform in the ordination practices of the Church for the purpose of limiting ministerial ordination only to those who perform direct pastoral, evangelistic, ecclesiastical, or other clearly ministerial type duties (see GCC 85-105, 85-1121, and 85-413 and NAD Working Policy L 45 45), it was

VOTED, To appoint a Ministerial Ordination Committee (ADCOM-A) to give counsel and draw up guidelines in regard to ordination practices as follows:

RANZOLIN, LEO, Chairman

Gordon, Paul A

Reid, George W

Thompson, G Ralph

Ministerial Association Secretary (to be elected at Annual Council)

Page: 92-238

November 3, 1992

ChMan/ChMan/ChMan/209-92G ADCOM to CBR-GCDOUP93AC+93AC+95GCS

109-93G INDUCTION SERVICE FOR CHURCH OFFICERS -
CHURCH MANUAL ADDITION

RECOMMENDED, To add a new section, Induction Service, at the end of Chapter 6 of the Church Manual, page 71, to read as follows:

Induction Service

All newly elected officers of the local church may be included in a service of induction conducted by a minister holding current credentials. If no minister is available, an ordained elder of the local church may conduct the induction service.

Page: 92-320

March 10, 1992

CONSTITUTION AND BYLAWS COMMITTEE (Con&By) (ADCOM-S)

14. Recommend ordination of employees of General Conference headquarters and General Conference institutions.

14. Recommend to General Conference Executive Committee through ADCOM.

Page: 92-65

April 27, 1993

PRE/ADCOM to RSF-ADCOM

INTEGRITY OF THE MINISTRY COMMITTEE (ADCOM-A)-
APPOINTMENT

VOTED, To appoint an Integrity of the Ministry Committee (ADCOM-A) as follows:

MEMBERS:

ROCK, C B, Chairman

Gordon, Paul A

Cress, James A
Cress, Sharon
Follett, Philip S

Karst, Gerald D
Reid, George W
Rodriguez, Angel M

This committee is to consider how to consistently deal with the handling of credentials, annulment of ordination, and rehabilitation of ministers who are involved in a moral fall and bring back its recommendations to the Administrative Committee.

Page: 93-68

April 27, 1993

NADO/NADOUP/ChMan/218-92G/ADCOM/ChMan/ADCOM to CBR-GCDOUP93AC + 93AC+95GCS
112-93G ORGANIZED COMPANIES - CHURCH MANUAL
AMENDMENT

RECOMMENDED, To amend the Church Manual pages 49 and 50, Organized Companies, to read as follows:...

All other appointments such as Sabbath School officers, lay activities officers, and Adventist Youth Society officers should be made by vote of the baptized members of the company at a meeting presided over by the district leader or by such person as may be authorized by the conference or mission committee.

The leader of such a company shall not be ordained to that office ~~or~~ and shall not have the authority to perform those functions that are vested in an elder of the church.

Page: 93:73

May 11, 1993

ChMan/ADCOM to CBR-GCDOUP93AC + 93AC + 95GCS
161-93G THE CHURCH ELDER, ORDINATION OF LOCAL
ELDER - CHURCH MANUAL AMENDMENT

RECOMMENDED, To amend the Church Manual page 57, The Church Elder, Ordination of Local Elder, to read as follows:

Ordination of Local Elder—Election to the office of elder does not in itself qualify one as an elder. Ordination is required before an elder has authority to function in that office. During the interim between election and ordination, the elected elder may function as church leader but not administer the ordinances of the church.

The ordination service is only performed by an ordained minister with credentials from the local conference. It may be a courtesy to invite a visiting ordained minister to assist in the ~~ordination~~

~~but only~~ ordination. However, only on the specific request of the local conference officers would ~~the~~ a visiting ordained minister or a retired ordained minister conduct the ordination.

The sacred rite of ordination should be simply performed in the presence of the ~~church~~, church and may include a brief outline of the office of elder, the qualities required, and the principal duties the elder will be authorized to perform for the church. After the exhortation, the minister, assisted by other ordained ministers and/or local ordained elders who are participating in the service, will ordain the elder by prayer and the laying on of hands. Having once been ordained as a church elder, ordination is not required again upon reelection to office as an elder, or upon election as elder of another church, provided that good and regular standing in the church has been maintained. One who has been ordained as elder is thereby qualified to serve subsequently in the deaconate office.

Page: 93-86

September 7, 1993

PRE/ADCOM to LR

GUIDELINES FOR ORDINATION

VOTED, To approve the following Guidelines for Ordination at the General Conference headquarters:

Review of Actions and Policies

Ministerial Ordination—Reform of Practice - (GCC 85-1121):

"VOTED, To institute a reform in the Church's ordination practices for the purpose of limiting ministerial ordination to those who perform direct pastoral, evangelistic, ecclesiastical or other clearly ministerial-type duties."

Ordained to World Church

"Workers who are ordained to the gospel ministry are set apart to serve the world church, primarily as pastors and preachers of the Word, and are subject to the direction of the church in regard to the type of ministry and their place of service. It should therefore be understood by those accepting ordination and who are engaged in specialized ministries such as administration, teaching, and department leadership, that they may be reassigned by the church to pastoral, preaching, and evangelistic duties."—General Conference Working Policy L 40.

The responsibility should be placed on the ordination candidate to express himself on this point, preferably in writing. The responsibility should be placed on the Ordination Review Committee to solicit such an understanding from the ordination candidate. This is seen as a self-monitoring procedure that clarifies the intent that ordination be granted to those whose service is ministry-focused.

Qualifications for Ordination

The General Conference Working Policy L 50, Examination of Candidates for Ordination, states that "Before the church sets a man apart by ordination he should have given satisfactory evidence of:

“a. A call to the ministry as a lifework,

- “b. His belief in and knowledge of the Scriptures,
- “c. His acquaintance with and full acceptance of the vital truths we believe we are called to proclaim to the world,
- “d. Experience in various kinds of ministerial responsibility,
- “e. Entire consecration of body, soul, and spirit,
- “f. Spiritual stability,
- “g. Social maturity,
- “h. Aptness as a teacher of truth,
- “i. Ability to lead souls from sin into holiness,
- “j. Fruitage in souls won to Christ,
- “k. A cooperative attitude and confidence in the organization and functioning of the church,
- “l. A life of consistent exemplary Christian conduct,
- “m. An exemplary family."

Bible and Spirit of Prophecy Qualifications

In the North American Division *Working Policy* L 45 biblical references and Spirit of Prophecy quotations are given about the qualifications for the ministry. Paul considered himself as "a servant of Jesus Christ" and considered this a "high calling". Ellen G White says that "A true minister does the work of the Master" (*Acts of the Apostles*, pp. 328, 329), and that "The conversion of sinners and their sanctification through the truth is the strongest proof a minister can have that God has called him to the ministry" (*Acts of the Apostles*, p. 328).

"Ordination of men who have not given clear evidence of their calls as soul-saving ministers must be avoided. It will always be true that some men, having been trained for lines of work other than the ministry, in time will give proof of their divine call to this sacred work, and the Church, recognizing this proof, will feel called to set them apart by ordination. But such cases are exceptions. Because a man holds a responsible position in the organized work, he is not by this fact alone eligible for ordination. "—North American Division Working Policy, L 45 40

"Ordination must never become simply a reward for faithful service or be considered an opportunity to add title and prestige to an employee."—North American Division Working Policy L 45 50. In the North American Division Working Policy, L 45 55 it is stated that "The ministry is not merely a profession; it is a calling." It is also referred to as a "Lifework".

Non Ministerial Employees

The North American Division Working Policy, L 45 45, sets out the counsel regarding Non Ministerial Employees and cites college presidents and academy principals, who in a sense are pastors to the students of those schools being responsible for their academic training as well as their spiritual welfare. They also must feel the call for the ministry as a lifework. "...editors, institutional leaders, conference secretary-treasurers, departmental directors/secretaries and denominationally employed physicians and dentists—may also come to the place in their service where ordination is appropriate; however, the divine call to the ministry must be clear before the Church separates them to the gospel ministry."

Commissioned Minister Credential

"To associates in pastoral care; Bible instructors; General Conference, division, union, and local conference treasurers and departmental directors including associate and assistant directors; institutional chaplains; presidents and vice presidents of major institutions; auditors (General Conference director, associates, area and district directors); and field directors of the Christian

Record Services. These individuals should have significant experience in denominational service, usually not fewer than five years, and demonstrate proficiency in the responsibilities assigned to them. Their remuneration should be at approximately the maximum for their category in the denominational wage scale."—North American Division Working Policy, D 05 10-3-a.

Definition of Ministry

All Christians are called to a ministry (Eph 4:12). Many are called to professional ministries such as the ministry of teaching, or the ministry of healing. The uniqueness of what is often termed the "gospel ministry" is that it calls to leadership in the most directly and completely spiritual areas of the Church.

Three Purposes of the Gospel Ministry

1. Intimacy with Christ—"And He ordained twelve, that they should be with him" (Mark 3:14).
2. Preaching "that He might send them forth to preach" (Ibid).
3. Establishing and nurturing local congregations. (Confirmed by Acts and the many pastoral epistles.) Ordination to the gospel ministry should normally be reserved for those proven successful in all three.

Summary of Present Actions

1. The Church lists specific qualifications for the ordination of ministers.
2. Working for the Master is a high calling.
3. The individual must be a true soul-winner.
4. People in other lines of work must give evidence of the divine call.
5. It is not a reward for title or position.
6. Nonpastors may occasionally be ordained if the divine call is clear and evident.
7. Teachers and other nonministerial personnel may receive the Commission of Ministerial Teaching credentials.

Proposed Guidelines

1. The 1985 General Conference Session action to reform ordination practices should be upheld.
2. Pastors, who have given proof of their divine call and are actively engaged in soul-winning, should ordinarily be the recipients of ordination.
3. All ordination candidates will have their cases considered by an Ordination Review Committee.
4. Nonpastoral workers should be encouraged to receive the Commissioned Minister Credential, and a special commissioning service should be conducted for these candidates.
5. Teachers and other professional educators who have a life-long commitment to and significant experience in the Seventh-day Adventist system of education, with usually not fewer than six years of service, and with demonstrated proficiency in assigned responsibilities, should receive the Commissioned Ministry of Teaching Credential.
6. When a nonministerial worker is recommended for ordination, he should be engaged in active ministry in a local church.

September 14, 1993

PRE/ADCOM to LR-ADCOM
ORDINATION REVIEW COMMITTEE

The Ordination Review Committee should have fewer people than were suggested, and both men and women may serve as voting members of the committee.

Page: 93-226

November 23, 1993

PRE/ADCOM/ADCOM to LR
ORDINATION REVIEW COMMITTEE (ADCOM-S)-
APPOINTMENT

VOTED, To appoint an Ordination Review Committee (OrdRevC) (ADCOM-S) to interview candidates for ordination, as follows:

MEMBERS:

RANZOLIN, LEO, Chairman
Cress, James A, Secretary

Baptiste, Harold W
Cress, Sharon
Flowers, Karen
Gilbert, Donald F
Thompson, G Ralph

Page: 93-282

May 24, 1994

SPD/ChMan/ChMan/ADCOM to CBR-GCDOUP94AC4 94AC+95GCS
180-94G THE CHURCH ELDER, THE BAPTISMAL SERVICE -
CHURCH MANUAL AMENDMENT

RECOMMENDED, To amend the Church Manual page 59, The Church Elder, The Baptismal Service, to read as follows:

The Baptismal Service—In the absence of an ordained pastor, the elder shall request the president of the conference or local field to arrange for the administration of the rite of baptism to those desiring to unite with the church. (See also p. 45.) A local church elder should not officiate in the baptismal service without first obtaining permission from the conference/mission president.

Page: 94-22

August 9, 1994

NADO/NADOUP/ChMan/ 218-92G/ADCOM/ChMan/ADCOM/GCDOUP 93AC/93AC/
112-93G/SECn/NADCOA /519-94N/ChMan/ADCOM to CBR-GCDOUP94AC+94AC+
95GCS

112-94G ORGANIZED COMPANIES - CHURCH MANUAL
AMENDMENT

RECOMMENDED, To amend the Church Manual pages 49 and 50, Organized Companies, to read as follows:

Organized Companies...

The leader of such a company shall not be ordained to that office ~~or~~ and shall not have the authority to perform those functions that are vested in an elder of the church. However, where exceptional circumstances warrant, the conference may appoint a person of church experience and leadership ability to serve as elder of that company.

Page: 94-183

September 13, 1994

CommWCO/PolRev&Dev/ADCOM to AHT(DIV)-GCDOUP94AC +94AC

241-94Gg MODEL UNION CONFERENCE CONSTITUTION AND
BYLAWS - POLICY AMENDMENT

RECOMMENDED, To amend GC CA 05, Model Union Conference Constitution and Bylaws, section CA 05 10, Union Conference Constitution and Bylaws, Bylaws Article VII—Officers, to read as follows:

Article VII—Officers

Sec. 1. Officers' Titles: The officers - No change

Sec. 2. President: The ~~president~~ president, who shall be an ordained minister of experience, is the chief executive officer and shall act as chairman of constituency meetings and the Executive Committee and ~~work~~ serve in the general interests of the union conference as the constituency and the Executive Committee may advise. shall determine. In his leadership he shall adhere to the policies of the _____ Division and of the General Conference of Seventh-day Adventists and work in close counsel with the _____ Division Executive Committee.

Pages: 94-239-240

September 13, 1994

CommWCO/PolRev&Dev/ADCOM to AHT(DIV)-GCDOUP94AC +94AC

241-94Gh MODEL UNION MISSION OPERATING POLICY -
POLICY AMENDMENT

RECOMMENDED, To amend GC CA 10, Model Union Mission Operating Policy, section CA 10 05, Union Mission, Article V—Officers and Their Duties, to read as follows:

Article V—Officers and Their Duties

Sec. 1. The regular officers - No change

Sec. 2. The Union Mission officers - No change

Sec. 3. President: The ~~president~~ president, who shall be an ordained minister of experience, is the chief executive officer and shall act as chairman of constituency meetings and of the Union Mission committee and work serve in the general interests of the Union Mission in counsel with as the constituency and the executive committee shall determine. In his leadership he shall ~~represent~~ adhere to the policies of the _____ Division and of the General Conference of Seventh-day Adventists and work in close counsel with the division committee.

Page: 94-241

September 13, 1994

CommWCO/PolRev&Dev/ADCOM to AHT(DIV)-GCDOUP94AC+94AC

241-94Gi MODEL LOCAL CONFERENCE CONSTITUTION AND
BYLAWS - POLICY AMENDMENT

RECOMMENDED, To amend GC CA 15, Model Local Conference Constitution and Bylaws, section CA 15 10, Local Conference Constitution and Bylaws, Bylaws Article VII—Officers, to read as follows:

Article VII—Officers

Sec. 1. Officers' Titles: The officers - No change

Sec. 2. President: The ~~president~~ president, who shall be an ordained minister of experience, is the chief executive officer and shall act as chairman of the constituency meetings and the Executive Committee, and ~~work~~ serve in the general interests of the _____ Conference as the constituency and the Executive Committee may advise. shall determine. In his leadership he shall adhere to the policies of the _____ Union Mission/Union ~~Conference~~ Conference, the and _____ Division and of the General Conference of Seventh-day Adventists and work in close counsel with the _____ Union Mission/Union Conference Committee.

Page: 94-242

September 13, 1994

CommWCO/PolRev&Dev/ADCOM to AHT(DIV)-GCDOUP94AC+94AC

241-94Gj MODEL LOCAL MISSION OPERATING POLICY -
POLICY AMENDMENT

RECOMMENDED, To amend GC CA 20, Model Local Mission Operating Policy, section CA 20 05, Local Mission, Article V—Officers and Their Duties, to read as follows:

Article V—Officers and Their Duties

Sec. 1. The regular officers - No change

Sec. 2. President: ~~The president~~ president, who shall be an ordained minister of experience, is the chief executive officer and shall act as chairman of constituency meetings and of the Mission committee and labor serve in the general interests of the Mission in counsel with as the constituency and the Mission committee. committee shall determine. In his leadership he shall adhere to the policies of the _____ Union, the _____ Division and of the General Conference of Seventh-day Adventists, and work in close counsel with the Union Committee. When a local mission president is to be absent from the field for prolonged periods of time, the Mission Committee shall be authorized, in counsel with the Union officers, to appoint an individual to act as chairman during such absence.

Page: 94-243

Note: Further changes to these paragraphs occurred on September 20, 30, October 2, 1994.

October 4, 1994

NADOUP/NADOUP/94YE/GCDOUP94AC to ACM-94AC+95GCS

305-94G PROCEDURE IN AUTHORIZING ORDINATION

RECOMMENDED, To request the Annual Council to refer the following action to the 1995 General Conference Session, for consideration:

The General Conference vests in each division the right to authorize the ordination of individuals within its territory in harmony with established policies. In addition, where circumstances do not render it inadvisable, a division may authorize the ordination of qualified individuals without regard to gender. In divisions where the division executive committees take

specific actions approving the ordination of women to the gospel ministry, women may be ordained to serve in those divisions.

Page: 94-1313

September 19, 1995

SEC/PolRev&Dev/ADCOM to AHT-GCDO95AC+95AC

268-95G CREDENTIALS AND LICENSES—METHOD OF ISSUING -
POLICY AMENDMENT

RECOMMENDED, To amend GC D 10, Credentials and Licenses—Method of Issuing, to read as follows:...

~~D 10 73~~ E 10 74 Change of Employment—Ministers—When an ordained/licensed minister changes his denominational employment to work other than that for which a ministerial credential/license is ordinarily issued, his credential/license shall cease to be valid except in those cases where the employing organization recommends, and the next higher organization approves, the continuing of the ministerial credential/license. When an individual is extended a call under the above circumstances, he shall be informed as to his relationship in this matter.

Page: 95-335

September 19, 1995

MIN/PolRev&Dev/ADCOM to AHT-GCDO95AC+95AC

203-95G REASONS FOR DISCIPLINE OF MINISTERS - POLICY
AMENDMENT

RECOMMENDED, To amend GC L 60, Safeguarding Credentials—the Integrity of the Ministry, section L 60 15, Reasons for Discipline of Ministers, to read as follows:

L 60 15 Reasons for Discipline of Ministers—Discipline shall be administered to an ~~ordained/licensed~~ ordained/licensed/commissioned minister in the following circumstances:...

Page: 95-359

August 22, 1995

SEC/ADCOM to AHT
CREDENTIALS AND LICENSES COMMITTEE (ADCOM-S)-

REAPPOINTMENT

VOTED, To reappoint the Credentials and Licenses Committee (ADCOM-S), with terms of reference and membership as follows:

TERMS OF REFERENCE

AUTHORITY AND RESPONSIBILITY

...

8. Recommend to GCC through ADCOM the ordination of employees of the General Conference headquarters and General Conference institutions.

8. Power to act.

Pages: 95-214-215

August 22, 1995

SEC/ADCOM to AHT

INTEGRITY OF THE MINISTRY (ADCOM-A)—REAPPOINTMENT

VOTED, To reappoint the Integrity of the Ministry (ADCOM-A) Committee, with terms of reference and membership as follows:

TERMS OF REFERENCE

AUTHORITY AND RESPONSIBILITY

Consider how to consistently deal with the handling of credentials, annulment of ordination, and rehabilitation of ministers who are involved in a moral fall.

Recommend to ADCOM

MEMBERS

BEDIAKO, MATTHEW A, Chairman
Cooper, Lowell C, Secretary

Cress, James A
Cress, Sharon
Follett, Philip S
Jacobsen, Donald G
Karst, Gerry D

Pierson, Walter L Jr
Reid, George W
Rodriguez, Angel M
Stenbakken, Richard O
Viera, Juan Carlos

Page: 95-232

August 22, 1995

SEC/ADCOM to AHT
ORDINATION REVIEW COMMITTEE (ADCOM-S)-
REAPPOINTMENT

VOTED, To reappoint the Ordination Review Committee (ADCOM-S), with membership as follows:

PURPOSE

To interview candidates for ordination

MEMBERS

BEDIAKO, MATTHEW A, Chairman
Cress, James A, Secretary

Baptiste, Harold W
Cress, Sharon
Flowers, Karen M
Ranzolin, Leo
Rawson, Robert L
Thompson, G Ralph

Page: 95-239

September 19, 1995

MIN/Po1Rev&Dev/ADCOM to AHT-GCDO95AC+95AC

204-95G STEPS IN DISCIPLINE OF MINISTERS - POLICY
AMENDMENT

RECOMMENDED, To amend GC L 60, Safeguarding Credentials—the Integrity of the Ministry, section L 60 20, Steps in Discipline of Ministers, to read as follows:...

3. Church Membership—The organization which has withdrawn a credential/license permanently and, in the case of an ordained minister ~~who has made void~~ has recorded the voiding of his ordination, has recognized and recorded his changed relationship, shall inform the local church of which the offending minister is a member. It shall be the duty of the Church to administer discipline as provided for in the Church Manual in the section "Reasons for Which Members Shall Be Disciplined."

Page 95-360

May 21, 1996

SEC/ADCOM to AHT
COMMITTEE REORGANIZATION—COMMITTEES APPOINTED
BY THE ADMINISTRATIVE COMMITTEE

VOTED, To approve changes in committees appointed by the Administrative Committee, as follows:...

To delete the Ordination Review Committee (ADCOM-S), and to add a term of reference to the Credentials and Licenses Committee (ADCOM-S), as follows: "To arrange for the interview of General Conference employees who are candidates for ordination." "Power to act."

Page: 96-128

September 10, 1996

OWM/ADCOM to AHT-GCDO96AC+96AC
204-96G HUMAN RELATIONS - POLICY AMENDMENT

RECOMMENDED, To amend GC 17, Human Relations, to read as follows:...

B 17 10 Official Position ~~All persons should~~ The world Church supports non-discrimination in employment practices and policies and upholds the principle that both men and women, without regard to race and color, shall be given full and equal opportunity with the Church to develop the knowledge and skills needed in for the building up of that church the Church, and all service and positions of leadership Positions of service and responsibility (except those requiring ordination) on all levels of church activity should shall be open to all on the basis of qualifications without regard to race. the individual's qualifications.

~~2.~~ 1. Membership and office in ~~all churches and on all levels must~~ the local church, and at various levels of administration, shall be available to anyone who qualifies, without regard to race. race, color, or gender.

~~3.~~ 2. The appointment of ~~church pastors~~ individuals to serve as Bible instructors, chaplains, or in departmental or pastoral responsibilities (except those requiring ordination), shall not be limited by race or color. race, color, or gender.

Page: 96-229-230

September 9, 1997

NAD/PolRev&Dev/ADCOM to AHT(DIV)-GC&DivSec97AC+GCD097AC+97AC
187-97G CREDENTIALS AND LICENSES - POLICY AMENDMENT

RECOMMENDED, To amend GC E 05, Credentials and Licenses, to read as follows:...

b. Commissioned Minister's License—Where applicable, to ministerial employees who have demonstrated a divine call to ministry which is recognized by a conference with an assignment as an associate in pastoral care or institutional chaplain. Commissioned ministers are not normally on the path toward ordination to the Gospel ministry.

E 05 10 Ministerial Employees—Ordained, Commissioned and Licensed—1. a. Ministerial Credential—To ministerial employees who have demonstrated a divine call to ministry and have been previously classified as licensed ministers and ordained to the Gospel ministry. An ordained minister is authorized to perform all the ministerial functions of the Church without limitation. (See L 35).

b. Ministerial License—To ministerial employees who have demonstrated a divine call to ministry which is recognized by a conference with an assignment as a spiritual leader, pastor, or evangelist. A licensed minister is on the path toward ordination as a minister of the Gospel. (See L 20)....

2) It is not the practice to ordain an individual holding a Commissioned Minister Credential....

Ø-18-15 O 25 20 Social Security Tax Equalization—Interdivision ordained/licensed ministers from a homeland where they are required to pay ~~Social Security~~ social security tax on a higher self-employed rate than the nonminister, shall have the social security taxes equalized. Since the nonministerial employee's ~~Social Security~~ social security tax is shared between the employee and the employing organization, the ordained/licensed minister shall be granted a subsidy to offset the difference between the percentage rate paid by the nonministerial employee and the percentage rate paid by the ordained/licensed minister on a self-employed basis. This policy does not apply to those serving in a territory of the home country and still benefiting from the income tax benefits of a parsonage/manse allowance (i.e. interdivision employee from the United States serving in Guam or Puerto Rico).

Pages: 97-230, 231, 297

September 25, 1997

NAD/PolRev&Dev/ADCOM/GC&DivSec97AC/GCD097AC to AHT(DIV)-97AC
187-97G CREDENTIALS AND LICENSES - POLICY AMENDMENT

RECOMMENDED, To amend GC E 05, Credentials and Licenses, to read as follows:...

E 05 10 Ministerial Employees—Ordained, Commissioned, and Licensed—1. a. Ministerial Credential—To ministerial employees who have demonstrated a divine call to ministry and have been ordained to the Gospel ministry. ...

3. Licensed ministers are on the path toward ordination to the Gospel ministry. (See L 25.) It is not the normal practice to ordain an individual who has not been classified as a licensed minister. (See L 25 30 and L 35.) Commissioned ministers holding licenses or credentials are not normally on the path toward ordination to the gospel ministry. ...

○18-15 O 25 20 Social Security Tax Equalization—Interdivision ordained/licensed ministers from a homeland where they are required to pay ~~Social Security~~ social security tax on a higher self-employed rate than the nonminister, shall have the social security taxes equalized. Since the nonministerial employee's ~~Social Security~~ social security tax is shared between the employee and the employing organization, the ordained/licensed minister shall be granted a subsidy to offset the difference between the percentage rate paid by the nonministerial employee and the percentage rate paid by the ordained/licensed minister on a self-employed basis. This policy does not apply to those serving in a territory of the home country and still benefiting from the income tax benefits of a parsonage/manse allowance (i.e. interdivision employee from the United States serving in Guam or Puerto Rico).

Pages: 97-1060, 1061, 1165

September 15, 1998

ADCOM/ADCOM to JP
STATEMENT OF ETHICAL FOUNDATIONS FOR THE GENERAL
CONFERENCE AND ITS EMPLOYEES

VOTED, To adopt the Statement of Ethical Foundations for the General Conference and Its Employees, as follows:...

Equal opportunity employment. Within the purview of laws permitting church membership as a condition of employment, and subject to denominational policies on positions requiring ministerial ordination, the General Conference will follow procedures to ensure equal opportunity of employment, remuneration, and advancement on the basis of job qualifications and performance.

Pages: 98-326, 328, 1212

May 25, 1999

ChMan/ADCOM to LCC-GCDO99AC+99AC+00GCS
185-99G ORGANIZED COMPANIES - CHURCH MANUAL
AMENDMENT

RECOMMENDED, To amend the Church Manual pages 36 and 37, Organized Companies, to read as follows:...

The leader of such a company shall not be ordained to that office and shall not have the authority to perform those functions that are vested in an elder of the church. However, where exceptional circumstances warrant, the conference conference/mission committee may appoint a person of church experience and leadership ability to serve as elder of that company.

Pages: 99-164, 165

August 3, 1999

ChMan/ADCOM/GCDO97AC/97AC/140-97G/ 113-98G/ChMan/ChMan/ADCOM/ChMan/
ChMan/ADCOM to LCC-GCDO99AC+99AC+00GCS

(Bolded material was voted by 97AC)

125-99G THE DEACON - CHURCH MANUAL AMENDMENT...

Deacons Must Be Ordained - No change...

It is suggested that at ~~At the ordinance~~ of the Lord's Supper the deacons should place the communion table in position ~~after it has been~~ and it should be arranged by the deaconesses. ~~They~~ ~~The deacons~~ should then be seated on the front row of seats, facing the communion table. After the minister or elder has asked the blessing on the bread and has broken it, he will pass the plates to the deacons. The deacons in turn will pass the emblem to the congregation. After serving the people, the deacons return the plates to the elder or the minister, who then serves the deacons. If two ordained persons are officiating, they serve each other; otherwise a deacon serves the minister or elder who then returns the plate to the table. All should then be seated. The same procedure is to be followed in serving the wine. (See pp. 69-74.)...

The elder, particularly if he is a licensed minister, collaborates with the regular pastor in planning the order of the service. If the church has no regular pastor, the elder is in charge of the service and should either conduct it or arrange for someone to do so. If an ordained minister is present, the elder naturally will defer to him and invite him to take the service. From time to time a meeting for testimony and praise may be conducted, or the time given to certain members to relate their experiences in outreach (missionary) work. ...

Who May Conduct Communion Service—The communion service is to be conducted by an ordained minister or a church elder. Deacons, although ordained, cannot conduct the service, but they can assist by passing the bread and wine to the members.

Communion for the Sick—If any members are ill or cannot for any other reason leave the home to attend the communion service in the house of worship, a special service in the home may be held for them. This service can be conducted only by an ordained minister or a church elder, who may be accompanied and assisted by deacons or deaconesses who assist in the regular service.

Additional changes made to “Church Officers and Their Duties” and “The Services and Meetings of the Church” (41-100) in the *Church Manual*.

Pages: 99-207-208, 209, 221, 229

August 3, 1999

SS&PM/ChMan/ADCOM to LCC-GCDO99AC+99AC+00GCS
202-99G LICENSED MINISTERS - CHURCH MANUAL
AMENDMENT

RECOMMENDED, To amend the Church Manual, Chapter 9, Ministers and Workers in Relation to the Church, pages 121 and 122, Licensed Ministers, to read as follows:...

In its actions the conference/mission committee shall not go beyond that which the division committee authorizes. It shall not authorize a licensed minister to go from church to church outside the church or group of churches of which he is a local elder, performing church rites which pertain to the functions of an ordained minister. A conference/mission committee action cannot be substituted for church election or ministerial ordination.

Pages: 99-290-291

August 10, 1999

SEC&TRE/Po1Rev&Dev/ADCOM to AHT-GC&DivSec99AC+GC&DivTre99AC+
GCDO99AC+99AC
228-99Gb SOCIAL SECURITY/NATIONAL INSURANCE - POLICY
AMENDMENT

RECOMMENDED, To amend GC O 25, Social Security/National Insurance, effective January 1, 2000, to read as follows:...

0 25 20 Social Security Tax Equalization—Interdivision ordained/licensed ministers from a ~~homeland~~ base division country where they are required to pay social security tax on a higher

self-employed rate than the nonminister, shall have the social security taxes equalized. Since the interdivision nonministerial employee's social security tax is shared between the interdivision employee and the employing organization, the ordained/licensed minister shall be granted a subsidy to offset the difference between the percentage rate paid by the interdivision nonministerial employee and the percentage rate paid by the interdivision ordained/licensed minister on a self-employed basis. This policy does not apply to those serving in a territory of the home country and still benefiting from the income tax benefits of a parsonage/manse allowance (i.e. an interdivision employee from the United States serving in Guam or Puerto Rico).

Pages: 99-390, 392-393

August 10, 1999

SEC&TRE/PolRev&Dev/ADCOM to AHT-GC&DivSec99AC+GC&DivTre99AC+GCDO99AC+ 99AC

231-99Gf ELIGIBILITY (RETIREMENT PLAN) - POLICY AMENDMENT...

Z 30 15 Military Chaplains—When ~~an ordained~~ a qualified minister enters the military service as a denominationally approved chaplain the following shall apply:

Pages: 99-482, 483

August 31, 1999

EUD/ChMan/ChMan/ChMan/ChMan/ADCOM/ChMan/ADCOM to LCC-GCDO99AC+99AC+00GCS

188-99Gb THE SABBATH WORSHIP SERVICE - CHURCH MANUAL AMENDMENT

RECOMMENDED, To amend the Church Manual, Chapter 7, The Services and Meetings of the Church, pages 65-68, The Sabbath Worship Service, to read as follows:...

The elder, particularly if he is a licensed minister, collaborates with the regular pastor in planning the order of the service. If the church has no regular pastor, the elder is in charge of the service and should either conduct it or arrange for someone to do so. If an ordained minister is present, the elder naturally will defer to him and invite him to take the service. From time to time a meeting for testimony and praise may be conducted, or the time given to certain members to relate their experiences in outreach (missionary) work.

Pages: 99-526, 528

September 7, 1999

NAD/ADCOM to ACM
NORTH AMERICAN DIVISION REQUEST TO AMEND UNION AND
LOCAL CONFERENCE MODEL CONSTITUTIONS

The Commission on Women in Ministry was appointed by the 1995 Yearend Meeting of the North American Division to recommend ways to expand the role of women in ministry, to recognize and deploy the gifts that God has given to women, and to affirm women in pastoral and other ministries. One of the recommendations of the commission, which the North American Division referred to the Administrative Committee for consideration, was to change the union and local conference model constitutions to allow a commissioned minister of experience to serve as president of a union or local conference. It was

VOTED, To retain the wording of the General Conference Working Policy D 10 and D 20 as it currently reads.

Page: 99-553

September 24, 1999

SS&PM/ChMan/ADCOM/GCDO99AC to LCC-99AC+00GCS
202-99G LICENSED MINISTERS - CHURCH MANUAL
AMENDMENT

RECOMMENDED, To amend the Church Manual, Chapter 9, Ministers and Workers in Relation to the Church, pages 121 and 122, Licensed Ministers, to read as follows:...

In its actions the conference/mission committee shall not go beyond that which the division committee authorizes. It shall not authorize a licensed minister to go from church to church outside the church or group of churches of which he is a local elder, performing church rites which pertain to the functions of an ordained minister. A conference/mission committee action cannot be substituted for church election or ministerial ordination.

Page: 99-1040

September 24, 1999

ChMan/ADCOM/GCDO99AC to LCC-99AC+00GCS
185-99G ORGANIZED COMPANIES - CHURCH MANUAL
AMENDMENT

RECOMMENDED, To amend the Church Manual, Chapter 5, Church Membership, pages 36 and 37, Organized Companies, to read as follows:...

The leader of such a company shall not be ordained to that office and shall not have the authority to perform those functions that are vested in an elder of the church. However, where exceptional circumstances warrant, the ~~conference~~ conference/mission committee may appoint a person of church experience and leadership ability to serve as elder of that company.

Pages: 99-1043, 1044

ChMan/ADCOM/GCDO97AC/97AC/97AC/ 145-97G/ChMan/ADCOM/ChMan/ADC OM/
GCDO98AC/98AC/ 118-98
G/ChMan/ChMan/ADCOM/ChMan/ChMan/ADCOM/GCDO99AC/
GCDO99AC to LCC-99AC+00GCS

September 24, 1999

(Bolded material is new to 99AC)

129-99G CHURCH OFFICERS AND THEIR DUTIES, MEMBERSHIP REQUIRED FOR ELECTION - CHURCH MANUAL ADDITION

RECOMMENDED, To add a new section, Membership Required for Election, to the Church Manual, Chapter 6, Church Officers and Their Duties, page 45 before the section, Term of Office, to read as follows:
Membership Required for Election

Only those who are members in regular standing ~~on the roll of~~ in the church making the appointments are eligible for election as officers of that local church. (See pp. 128, 130.) The only exceptions are a licensed employee of the conference/mission assigned as a district leader (see p. 121), and a local elder who may, when necessary and with the recommendation of the conference/mission committee, be elected to serve in more than one church. (See p. 47.) **A church congregation wanting to involve its young people who have not yet been baptized in training and orientation for church leadership may appoint them as assistants to those in elected office. Trainees chosen to assist deacons, deaconesses, and elders are not eligible for ordination.**

Pages: 99-1044-1045

August 29, 2000

SEC/ADCOM to AHT
CREDENTIALS AND LICENSES COMMITTEE (ADCOM-S)-
REAPPOINTMENT

VOTED, To reappoint the Credentials and Licenses Committee (Cred&L) (ADCOM-S), with terms of reference and membership as follows:...

Terms of Reference

8. Recommend the ordination of employees of the General Conference headquarters and General Conference institutions.

9. Arrange for the interview of General Conference employees who are candidates for ordination.

Authority and Responsibility

8. Recommend to GCC through ADCOM.

9. Power to act.

Pages: 00-166-168

September 12, 2000

SEC/ADCOM to AHT
INTEGRITY OF THE MINISTRY COMMITTEE (ADCOM-A)-
REAPPOINTMENT

VOTED, To reappoint the Integrity of the Ministry Committee (ADCOM-A), with terms of reference and membership as follows:

TERMS OF REFERENCE

1. Consider how to consistently deal with the handling of credentials, annulment of ordination, and rehabilitation of ministers who are involved in a moral fall.

AUTHORITY AND RESPONSIBILITY

1. Recommend to ADCOM.

Pages: 00-284-285