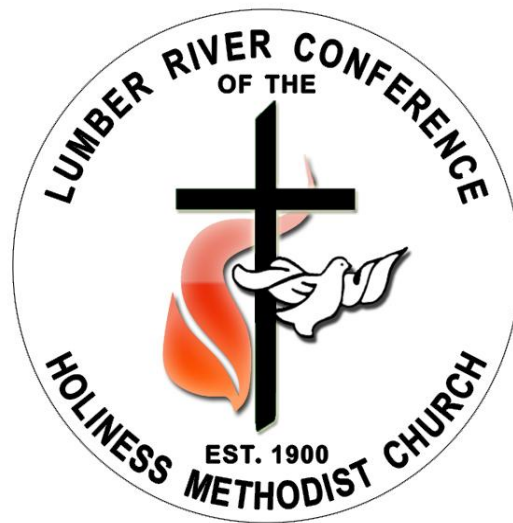


DOCTRINES AND DISCIPLINE OF THE



DOCTRINES
AND
DISCIPLINE
OF THE
HOLINESS METHODIST CHURCH

REVISED
(2010)

Jimmy Sanderson (New Bethel),
Stanley Scott (Cherokee Chapel),
Conference Superintendent, Elton B. Hunt
Conference Secretary, Dianne B. Belcher
Presiding Bishop, James H. Woods



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GREETINGS TO THE MEMBERS OF THE HOLINESS METHODIST CHURCH

Dearly Beloved Brethren-We esteem it our privilege and duty to recommend to you this volume, which contains the Doctrines and Discipline of our Church, both of which, as we believe, are agreeable to the Word of God.

HISTORICAL STATEMENT

On October 26, 1900 six preachers met at Union Chapel Church In Robeson County, North Carolina and the plan by John Wesley, was submitted to them, and was, In part, heartily approved There upon they organized the Holiness Methodist Church, and adopted some articles of religion. They also enacted laws necessary for the government of the new church. Such was the origin of the Lumber River Conference of the Holiness Methodist Church. While its Polity and Rules may, from time to time, be modified to meet changing conditions and opportunities, it remains unchanged in Doctrine. It teaches the Doctrine of Scriptural Holiness in full, without side issues.

Beloved, we are glad to have the privilege of recommending to you the Holiness Methodist Church, which we believe, is agreeable to the Word of God, the only and the sufficient rule of faith and practice She will use the liberty given to her by the Lord We believe that God's design in raising the Holiness Methodist Church is to evangelize and spread scriptural holiness over the world, therefore, may the Holiness Methodist Church in her organic form and in spiritual power, be successfully planted in the different countries May she prosper and flourish in the work of the Lord Her sole object is to fulfill to the end of time, her divine vocation in evangelizing all true reforms and in the promotion of Holiness among all branches of the one Church of the one Church of Christ

REVISION AND EDITORIAL AUTHORITY

It was ordered by the Presiding Bishop, James H Woods that a Revision Committee of the Lumber River Conference of the Holiness Methodist Church be appointed to revise and edit the Book of Discipline (Annual Conference 2009 Official Journal) Revision Committee: Bishop James H. Woods, the Reverend Elton B. Hunt, Dianne B. Belcher, Jimmy Sanderson and Stanley Scott.

A copy of the original minutes of the organization of the Lumber River Annual Conference of the Holiness Methodist Church held at Union Chapel Church, October 26, 1900.



ORGANIZATION

A meeting was held at Union Chapel on October 26, 1900 for the purpose of organizing a conference for the Indian Descent, after reading a part of the Scripture and prayer by Bro John H Sampson.

On motion Bro John H Sampson was elected Chairman, Orlin H Lowrie was elected Secretary and Bro. Willie D Maynor was elected as Assistant Secretary. On motion this work shall be known as the "*Lumbee River Mission*" On motion this organization shall constitute or be known as the Holiness Methodist Church On motion there shall be two orders of the Ministry Which shall be Elders and Deacons On motion the Elders shall act as Superintendent of Lumbee River Mission composed of Ministers and Delegate. On motion the Cabinet shall be composed of the Presbyter and Delegates On motion this body take an intermission of one hour After prayer the Conference was called to order by the chair On motion and second that Brother H H Lowrie be elected Superintendent of Lumbee River Mission An invitation was extended to Preachers to join the Mission The following Bros responded by coming to the altar F F Lowrie, C C Lowrie, and Israel Locklear, Bro G F Spaulding, Richard Chavis and A B Smith was elected Conference Committee On motion Bros Murdock Lowrie, A B Lowrie and J T Sanderson was elected Conference Treasurer On motion Bros A B Lowrie, J N Lowrie and Artemus Locklear was appointed Temperance Committee On motion Bros Edmund Lowrie, A B Smith and Richard Chavis was appointed Sunday School Committee On motion Bro Geo W Locklear, O H Lowrie and Elias Lowrie, Edmund Lowrie, and Geo W Locklear was appointed a committee on Church Records

On motion the next Annual Conference be held With New Prospect Church On motion and second this Conference stand adjourned.

On motion the minutes was read and approved.

JOHN H SAMPSON, Chairman

O H LOWRIE, Secretary W D Maynor, Assistant



THE CONSTITUTION OF
THE LUMBER RIVER CONFERENCE
OF THE
HOLINESS METHODIST CHURCH

Preamble

In order to better preserve our Historic Heritage, and the more effectually to co-operate with other branches of the one Church of Jesus Christ in advancing the Kingdom of God among men, we, the Clergy and laity of the Lumber River Conference of the Holiness Methodist Church, in accordance with the methods of constitutional legislation in force among us, hereby ordain, establish and set forth as the fundamental Law or Constitution of the Lumber River Conference of the Holiness Methodist Church these Articles of Religion, the General Rules, and the Articles of Organization and Government, here following, to wit:

DIVISION I
ARTICLES OF RELIGION

I. Of Faith in the Holy Trinity

There is but one living and true God, everlasting, without body or parts, of infinite power, wisdom, and goodness; the maker and preserver of all things, visible and invisible And in unity of this Godhead there are three persons, of One substance, power, and eternal the Father, the Son, and the Holy Ghost

II. Of the Word, or Son of God who was made very Man

The Son, who is the Word of the Father, the very and eternal God, of one substance with the Father, took man's nature in the womb of the blessed Virgin: so that two whole and perfect natures, that is to say, the Godhead and Manhood, were joined together in one person, never to be divided whereof is one Christ, very God and very Man, who truly suffered, was crucified, dead, and buried, to reconcile His Father to us, and to be a sacrifice, not only for original guilt, but also for the actual sins of men

III. Of the Resurrection of Christ

Christ did truly rise again from the dead, and took again His body, with all things appertaining to the perfection of man's nature, wherewith He ascended into heaven, and there sitteth until He returns to judge all men at the last day.



IV. Of the Holy Ghost

The Holy Ghost, proceeding from the Father and the Son, is of One substance, majesty, and glory with the Father and the Son, very and eternal God.

V. The Sufficiency of the Holy Scriptures for Salvation

The Holy Scriptures contain all things necessary to salvation so that whatsoever is not read therein, nor may be proved thereby, is not to be required of any man that it should be believed as an article of faith, or be thought requisite or necessary to salvation. In the name of the Holy Scriptures we do understand those canonical books of the Old and New Testament of whose authority was never any doubt in the Church the names of the canonical books are:

Genesis, Exodus, Leviticus, Numbers, Deuteronomy, Joshua, Judges, Ruth, The First Book of Samuel, The Second Book of Samuel, The First Book of Kings, The Second Book of Kings, The First Book of Chronicles, The Second Book of Chronicles, The Book of Ezra, The Book of Nehemiah, The Book of Esther, The Book of Job, The Psalms, The Proverbs, Ecclesiastes or the Preacher, Canticle or Song of Solomon, Four Prophets the Greater, Twelve Prophets the Less

All the books of the New Testament, as they are commonly received, we do receive and account canonical.

VI. The Old Testament

The Old Testament is not contrary to the New; for both in the Old and New Testament everlasting life is offered to mankind by Christ, who is the only Mediator between God and man, being both God and Man. Wherefore they are not to be heard who feign that the old fathers did look only for transitory promises. Although the law given from God by Moses as touching ceremonies and rites, doth not bind Christians, nor ought the civil precepts thereof of necessity be received in any commonwealth, yet notwithstanding, no Christian whatsoever is free from the obedience of the commandments which are called moral.

VII. Original or Birth Sin

Original sin standeth not in the following of Adam (as the Pelagians do vainly talk), but it is the corruption of the nature of every man, that naturally is engendered of the offspring of Adam, whereby man is very far gone from original righteousness, and of his own nature inclined to evil, and that continually.



VIII. Of Free Will

The condition of man after the fall of Adam is such that he cannot turn and prepare himself, by his own natural strength and works to faith, and calling upon God wherefore we have no power to do good works, pleasant and acceptable to God, without the grace of God by Christ preventing us, that we may have a good will, and working with us, when we have that good will.

IX. Of the Justification of Man

We are accounted righteous before God only for the merit of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ, by faith, and not for our own works or deservings Wherefore, that we are justified by faith only is a most wholesome doctrine, and very full of comfort

X. Of Good Works

Although good works, which are the fruits of faith, and follow after Justification, cannot put away our sins, and endure the severity of God's judgments; yet are they pleasing and acceptable to God in Christ, and spring out of a true and lively faith, insomuch that by them a lively faith may be as evidently known as a tree is discerned by its fruit

XI. Of Works of Supererogation

Voluntary works ----- besides, over, and above God's commandments which are called works of supererogation, cannot be taught without arrogancy and impiety For by them men do declare that they do not only render unto God, as much as, they are bound to do, but that they do more for his sake than of bounden duty is required, whereas Christ saith plainly "When ye have done all that is commanded you, say, We are unprofitable servants."

XII. Of Sin after Justification

Not every sin willingly committed after Justification is the sin against the Holy Ghost, and unpardonable Wherefore, the grant of repentance is not to be denied to such as fall into sin after justification after we have received the Holy Ghost, we may depart from grace given, and fall into sin, and, by the grace of God, rise again and amend our lives And therefore they are to be condemned who say they can no more sin as long as they live here, or deny the place of forgiveness to such as truly repent

XIII. Of the Church

The visible Church of Christ is a congregation of faithful men in which the pure Word of God is Preached, and the Sacraments duly administered according to Christ's ordinance, in all those things that of necessity are requisite to the same



XIV. Of Purgatory

The Romish doctrine concerning purgatory, pardon, worshipping and adoration, as well of, images as of relics, and also invocation of saints, is a fond thing, vainly invented, and grounded upon no warrant of scripture, but repugnant to the Word of God

XV. Of Speaking in the Congregation in such a Tongue as the People Understand

It is a thing plainly repugnant to the Word of God, and the custom of the primitive Church, to have public prayer in the church, or to administer the Sacraments, in a tongue not understood by the people.

XVI. Of the Sacraments

Sacraments ordained of Christ are not only badges or tokens of Christian men's profession, but rather they are certain signs of grace, and God's good will toward us by that which He doth work invisibly in us, and doth not only quicken, but also strengthen and confirm, our faith in Him.

DIVISION II

The General Rules

It is therefore expected of all who become members of the church that they shall evidence their desire of salvation

FIRST By doing no harm, by avoiding evil of every kind, especially that which is most generally practiced, such as: **the taking** of the name of God in vain, **the profaning** the day of the Lord, either by doing ordinary work therein or by buying or selling, **the giving** or taking of things on usury — that is, unlawful interest, **uncharitable** or unprofitable conversation, particularly speaking evil of Magistrates or of Ministers, **doing** to others as we would not they should do unto us, **doing** what we know is not for the glory of God, as the taking of such diversions as cannot be used in the name of the Lord Jesus, such as softness and needless self-indulgence

It is expected of all who continue in these churches that they shall continue to evidence their desire of salvation.



SECOND **By doing good**, by being in every kind merciful after their power, as they have opportunity, doing good of every possible sort and, as far as possible, to all men:

To their bodies, of the ability which God gives by:

- giving food to the hungry
- by clothing the naked
- by visiting or helping them that are sick or in prison;

To their souls, by instructing, reproving, or exhorting all we have any intercourse with, trampling under foot that enthusiastic doctrine that "we are not to do good unless our hearts be free to do it"

By doing good, especially to them that are of the household of faith or groaning so to be, employing them preferably to others, buying one of another, helping each other in business, and so much the more because the world will love its own and them only.

By all possible diligence and frugality, that the Gospel be not blamed it is expected of all who desire to continue in these churches that they shall continue to evidence their desire of salvation. By attending upon all the ordinances of God, such are:

- The Public Worship of God
- The ministry of the word, either read or expounded
- The Supper of the Lord
- Family, and private prayer
- Searching of the scriptures
- Fasting and Abstinence

All our Church members are required to abstain from all kinds of intoxication.

THIRD This Conference will not condone or accept any legislation providing equal rights to individuals involved in immorality as described in the Bible

These are the General Rules of our churches, all which we are taught of God to observe, even in His written Word, which is the only rule, and the sufficient rule, both of our faith and practice. All these we know His Spirit writes on truly awakened hearts. If there be any among us who observes them not, who habitually breaks any of them, let It be known unto them who watch over the soul as they who must give an account. We will admonish him of the error of his ways. We will bear with him for a season, but if they repent not, he hath no more place among us we have delivered our own souls.



DIVISION III
Articles of Organization and Government
Article 1 the Annual Conference

I The Permanent Members of the Annual Conference shall be composed of the Bishops, Elders, Deacons, Traveling Ministers, Sunday School Supervisor, Lay Leader of Young People, Conference Treasurer, Conference Secretary, Conference Trustees, Conference Delegates, Conference Lay Representatives and the Chairperson of the Conference Nominating Committee.

- 1 The Conference Delegates and Alternates shall be elected by the members of the Fourth Quarterly Conference who shall take part in the general business of the Annual Session Churches which meet quarterly Conferences held in October and November of the Fourth Quarter, are allowed to elect their Delegate and Alternate at the Third Quarter
- 2 Each circuit or station church shall send one Delegate to the Annual Session accompanied by the alternate delegate.

II The Sunday School Supervisor, Lay Leader of Young People, the Nominating Committee, Conference Treasurer, and Conference Secretary shall be elected at each Annual Conference

III **Duties of Delegate/Alternate** Each church is to send one (1) Delegate and an Alternate to the Annual Conference, elected by the church board and confirmed by members of the Quarterly Conference. The Alternate **IS** required to attend the business session and sit in the cabinet session without voice or vote The primary purpose being to acquire experience and stay informed. Other duties will be to aid and assist the Delegate in their duties at the local church and conference level.

- 1 The Delegate and Alternate will serve for two (2) years They will attend all conference meetings and special sessions as required
- 2 At the expiration time of the Delegate, the Alternate is to succeed him/her as the Delegate. The Alternate's willingness and eligibility to serve as new Delegate should be confirmed by the Board as well at that time, a new Alternate will be appointed by the local church board. The Delegate's responsibilities will be overseeing the second part of the pastoral selection process If a Delegate or Alternate cannot continue his/her term of office due to death, health reasons, membership change, resignation or violation of church general rules, then the local church board would appoint a replacement for that term.

IV. Duties of Lay Representatives:

1. Are required to attend all Annual and Special Sessions of Conference.
2. Should represent the opinion of their Local Church.
3. Are to be elected the first Sunday in January. Members that are not Committed to their local church and the Conference should not be considered for election.
4. The contact information for all duly elected Lay representatives is to be forwarded to the Conference Secretary no later than January 31.
5. The local church is granted lay representatives based upon the number of full and probationary members .
 - a. 1-50 (1) representative
 - b. 51-100 (2) representatives
 - c. 101-150 (3) representatives
 - d. 151-200 (4) representatives
6. Lay Representatives are elected under the direction of the Delegate and their Alternate.



PASTORAL SELECTION PROCESS

V. During the month of August, the Official Board of the local shall appoint a "Pastoral Selection Committee" consisting of three (3) church members - one member chosen from the Official Board who shall serve as the Chairperson and two members at large who are considered in good standing within said church. The express purpose of this committee is to pass out blank ballots as supplied by the Conference Secretary. The Chairman of the Pastoral Selection Committee should contact the Conference Secretary and advise if their local church desires ballots for either a full-time or part-time pastor. On the second Sunday in September, members and probationers are each to receive one (1) ballot and must be present unless because of mitigating circumstances they can't be present, in such cases ballots may be obtained from the committee no later than the third Sunday in September. Each member and probationer is to mark their choice for Pastor. Ballots are to be tabulated by the Pastoral Selection Committee. If a Clergyman receives seventy percent (70 %) or more of the total votes cast no further voting is necessary. The name of this person shall be forwarded to the Delegate to be presented to the Cabinet at Annual Conference as called for by the Presiding Bishop. If no one receives 70% of the votes cast the two top vote getters names will be given to the Conference Secretary.

The elected Delegate will contact the Conference Secretary and provide them the two names of the clergy receiving the most votes. The Conference Secretary will provide the Delegate with Ballots containing the two names. The Delegate will then distribute these ballots to all Full and Probationary members on the second Sunday in October. Each member must be present unless mitigating circumstances prevent them from being there. In such cases, a ballot may be obtained from the Delegate no later than the third Sunday in October. Ballots will be tabulated by the Delegate and results presented to the Cabinet at Annual Conference as called for by the Presiding Bishop..

The results of tabulated ballots, both by the Pastoral Selection Committee and the elected Delegate shall be kept for thirty (30) days after Annual Conference has convened. If no questions arise, ballots may be properly disposed of. **No** clergy shall be involved in the election process. If a problem arises, the elected Delegate should contact the Conference Superintendent or the Presiding Bishop. If these guidelines are **NOT** followed, the Presiding Bishop has the authority to invalidate the process.

No ballot is allowed to leave the Church premises unless taken by the Chairman of the Pastoral Selection Committee or Delegate. This ballot is to be delivered to a member with mitigating circumstances only as determined by the Chairman or the Delegate.

Below is the type of ballot that will be supplied by the Conference Secretary

Please see sample ballot in forms section

VI All members of the Annual Conference and those on trial therein must attend all Annual and Special Sessions of Conference.

VII The Presiding Bishop shall preside over Annual Conference and Special Sessions. In case the Presiding Bishop is not present a member of the Annual Conference, appointed by the Bishop shall preside.



ELECTION OF THE PRESIDING BISHOP

- VIII. The Annual Conference shall elect a Presiding Bishop for a term of two (2) years. After nominations are made without discussion, voting will be by secret ballot. The ballots shall be counted and reported by the Conference Secretary.
- IX. The Annual Conference shall have a secret ballot for all elections of officers and any other position where there is more than one nominee.

ELECTION OF CONFERENCE SUPERINTENDENT

The Annual Conference shall elect a Superintendent for a term of two (2) years. After nominations are made without discussion by secret ballot, the ballots shall be counted and reported by the Conference Secretary.

ELECTION OF CONFERENCE SECRETARY

The Annual Conference shall elect a Secretary for a term of one (1) year as presented by the Nominating Committee.

ELECTION OF BISHOPS

An Elder may be ordained to the Office of Bishop by the Presiding Bishop on the approval of the Elders at the Conference.

The Ordination of a Bishop is consecrated by the laying on of the hands by three Elders or one Bishop and two Elders.

A record of the proceedings of each Annual Conference shall be kept by the Conference Secretary elected for that purpose and shall be signed by the presiding officer and Secretary. The business of the Annual Conference is to inquire

- 1 What committees and boards shall be elected?
 - a Program Committee (elect 3)
 - b Home and Foreign Mission Board
 - c Ordained Clergy Board
 - d Budget Committee
 - e Nominating Committee
 - f Educational Board
- 2 Who have been received on trial?
- 3 Who remains on trial?
- 4 Who have been discontinued?
- 5 Was the character of each conference member passed?
- 6 Who has been received on credentials?
- 7 Who has been received into full connection?
- 8 Who has been elected and ordained deacon?
9. Who shall be Standing Investigation Committee?
- 10 Who shall be Program Committee?
- 11 Who has been elected and ordained elder?
- 12 Who has been elected and ordained Bishop?
- 13 Who are on trial in studies of the first year?
- 14 Who are on trial in studies of the second year?
- 15 Which members are in studies of the third year?
- 16 Which members are in studies of the fourth year?
- 17 Have any withdrawn?
- 18 Have any been expelled?
- 19 Who have died?
- 20 Who shall be Conference Treasurer?
- 21 Who shall be Conference Stewards?
- 22 Who shall be Conference Trustees?



- 23 Who shall be Sunday School Supervisor?
- 24 Who shall constitute the Sunday School Board?
- 25 Who shall be Lay Leader of Young People?
- 26 Who shall constitute the Nominating Committee?
- 27 Who shall constitute the Education Board?
- 28 What is the statistical report?
- 29 Where are the preachers stationed?
- 30 Where shall the next Annual Conference be held?

B The Annual Conference has power to hear complaints against its members. and may try, reprove, suspend, deprive of Clergy office and credentials, expel, or acquit any against whom charges are preferred The electing and ordaining of Bishops, Elders and Deacons must be done in the Annual Conference.

C The Statistical Report shall be In the following form

- 1 Church and Pastor
- 2 No of Churches
- 3 Value of Churches
- 4 No of Full Members
- 5 No of Probationers
- 6 No of Local Preachers
- 7 No of Exhorters
- 8 No of Deaths
- 9 Adult Baptisms
- 10 Children Baptisms
- 11 No Sunday Schools
- 12 No of Officers & Teachers
- 13 No of Scholars
- 14 Salary Apportioned to Pastor
- 15 Paid to Pastor
- 16 Conference Funds
- 17 Other objects

D In admitting a Preacher at the Annual Conference into full connection, he shall be asked the following questions with any others that the Ordained Clergy Board deems necessary, namely

- 1 Are you going on to Christian Perfection?
- 2 Are you earnestly striving after it?
- 3 Is your motto: "Holiness to the Lord"?
- 4 Do you believe fully in the Doctrine of Holiness?
- 5 Will you be governed by the Rules and Discipline of the Lumber River Conference of the Holiness Methodist Church?
- 6 Will you teach and maintain them*?
- 7 Are you going to employ all your time in the work of God?



Article 2 The Quarterly Conference

The Quarterly Conference shall be composed of the Pastor, Local Preachers, Exhorters, Class Leaders, Stewards, Sunday School Superintendents, and the Trustees of the Church. All members of the Quarterly Conference must be members of the Church in good standing. The Conference Superintendent shall preside, or he may appoint an Elder to preside, but in the absence of the Conference Superintendent or Elder so appointed, the pastor shall preside.

The Quarterly Conference shall appoint a Secretary, who shall take minutes of the proceedings, thereof, and transmit them to the Recording Steward. The Business of the Quarterly Conference, after the roll has been called, and a Secretary appointed, shall be to inquire

- 1 Who are approved as Trustees?
- 2 Who are approved as Sunday School Superintendents'?
- 3 Are there any Complaints'?
- 4 Are there any Appeals?
- 5 Are there any Reports?
 - (a) From the Pastor
 - (b) From the Local Preachers
 - (c) From the Exhorters
 - (d) From the S S Superintendent
 - (e) From the Class Leaders
- 6 Who are licensed to preach?
- 7 Was the character of each Local Preacher and Exhorter passed and licensed renewed?
- 8 What Local Preachers are recommended for reception to the Ordained Clergy Board?
- 9 Is there any change desired in the Board of Stewards'?
- 10 Who shall be Stewards for the ensuing Conference Year?
- 11 Who shall be the Recording Steward?
- 12 Are the church records properly kept?
- 13 When and where shall the next Quarterly Conference be held?
- 14 Is there any other business?
 - A Pastoral Selection Committee (3rd Quarter)
 - B Church Budget Approval (1st Quarter)
 - C Delegate and Alternate (3rd or 4th Quarter)
 - D Trustees Recommendation by Pastor and elected by Quarter (4th Quarter)

The question "*Are there any Complaints?*" in the Quarterly Conference does not refer to members of the Annual Conference, but refers to charges of crime brought against preachers on trial in the Annual Conference whose membership is in the Circuit, or church complaints made against the moral or official conduct of Local Preachers, and to complaints made against the official conduct of members of the Quarterly Conference other than those mentioned above.

A complaint or charge shall be presented to the Pastor in writing before the Quarterly Conference with the names of those making the complaint attached. When so presented, the Pastor shall present the complaint to the quarter for disposal.

The dismissal of a complaint is not a bar to a new complaint.

Questions 7,8,9,11,12,13, and (above) are questions for the Third or Fourth Quarterly Conference.

The Quarter appoints the place of the next quarter but the Superintendent fixes the time.



Article 3 Local Church Boards

A The Pastor, as often as Practical (preferably monthly), shall hold a meeting of all the church officials in order to inquire

- 1 Are there any sick?
- 2 Are there any requiring temporal relief?
- 3 Are there any who walk disorderly and will not be reprov'd? (Class roll)
- 4 Are there any who willfully neglect the means of grace?
- 5 Are there any probationers to be recommended for admission into full connection?

- 6 Are there any changes to be made in the classes?
- 7 Are there any to be recommended for license to exhort or preach?
- 8 Is there any miscellaneous business?

The pastor should see that the minutes of the Local Church Board Meetings are properly recorded in a book and kept in a safe place by a Secretary elected by the Board.

All business to be presented to the official Church Board shall be presented to the Pastor Official Board Meetings will be called by the Pastor. The Official Church Board may call an Official Board Meeting with the approval of the Presiding Bishop.

B Money collected at each church on Annual Conference Sunday is to be submitted to the Conference Treasurer.

Remarriage

PART I. That the Church should receive a person into the Church

BASED ON A CONFESSION OF FAITH IN JESUS CHRIST

If a person meets the Church and Conference general rules/Order Division II, the person should be given the full rights of the church regardless of present marital status (refers to heterosexual marriages only. NO homosexual unions of any kind are accepted or recognized by our Conference)

There should be no restriction in regard to elective or appointed office (with exception to church board appointments which are the assigned pastor's discretion) in which a person may be asked to serve.

PART II That the use of Church property (sanctuary, fellowship hall, etc.) for "marriage ceremonies" where one or both parties has divorced and an ex-spouse still living is not allowed. Such ceremonies are not to be performed by our Conference Clergy or allowed to be performed by Officiates from outside the Conference- **this is strictly prohibited.**

Class Meetings

The design of the organization of classes and the appointment of leaders is to establish a system of pastoral oversight that shall effectively reach every member of the church and keep up a meeting for social and religious worship, for instruction, encouragement, and admonition that shall be a profitable means of grace to our people

The leaders should meet their classes at least once (if practical) a month and observe how every person outwardly observes the rules, but also how they mature in the knowledge and love of God It is expected of all who continue in the classes, that they shall continue to evidence their desire of salvation, by attending upon all ordinances of God, such as public worship of God, the ministry of the Word, the Supper of the Lord, family and private prayer, searching the Scriptures, fasting and abstinence

In order to render our class meetings interesting and profitable, let the Pastor remove improper leaders, and see that all the leaders



be of sound judgment and truly devoted to God. Class leaders are to be examined and appointed by the pastor in charge. Let no one be admitted into full membership (either by letter of transfer or restoration) in the church until he has been at least six months on probation, has been recommended by the Class Leaders and Official Board, has been baptized, and on examination by the pastor before the church, has given satisfactory assurance both of the correctness of his faith and of his willingness to observe and keep the rules of the church. Let great care be taken in receiving persons on probation, and let the pastor and the class leader see that all persons on probation be taught the doctrines, rules, and regulations of the Lumber River Conference of the Holiness Methodist Church. Probationers are expected to conform carefully to all rules and usages of the church, but they may not be members of the Quarterly Conference, nor take part in judicial business except as witnesses. The Pastor must see that the names of all persons received into the church are **duly** recorded.

The local church has the option of conducting class Sunday according to the discipline or thirty (30) minutes of class session before preaching or exhortation, this decision is to be made by the local church board.

Article 4 Organization of Sunday Schools

It shall be the duty of the annual conference to organize in its churches a Sunday School which, shall be under the Supervision of the Pastors, Sunday School Supervisor, and the Sunday School Board.

CLASSIFICATION OF SUNDAY SCHOOLS

First Class-In order for a Sunday School to rate first class the Sunday School must do all six points for standardization approved by the Conference. Also, each Sunday School officer and teacher must have completed the first four units or complete one of said units each year.

Second Class-Sunday Schools that do all points except one and six.

Third Class-Sunday Schools that do all three and four.

Fourth Class-Sunday Schools that are neither first, second or third class.

Classification of Sunday Schools is subject to the approval of the Sunday School Board.

SUNDAY SCHOOL COURSE OF STUDY AND POINTS FOR STANDARDIZATION

Points For Standardization

- 1 Course of study organized by teachers
- 2 Units of course of study completed each year
- 3 Sunday School organized according to denominational plan
- 4 Contributing to benevolent causes
- 5 Using denominational literature
- 6 Having Sunday School every Sunday

Explanation of Points

- 1 Refers to teacher training course that will be put on by the Sunday School Board
- 2 Refers to units of course of study completed
- 3 A Sunday School organized according to the plan of the Holiness Methodist Church should have the following
 - a (1) Pastor, (2) Superintendent (3) Assistant Superintendent, (4) Secretary, (5) Assistant Secretary, (6) Treasurer (7) Chorister, (8) Assistant Chorister, (9) Librarian, (10) Assistant Librarian, (11) Sexton, (12) Lay Leader, (13) Assistant Lay Leader
 - b A permanent record of the following must be kept, (1) The Sunday School in which they are to serve, (2) The Sunday School Board
 - c All officers and teachers must meet the approval of (1) The Sunday School in which they are to serve, (2) The Sunday School Board
- 4 Refers to contributing to objects other than Sunday School literature, e.g. contributing money to the sick or distressed
- 5 Refers to using approved Conference Literature
- 6 Refers to having Sunday School every Sunday except Sunday of Sunday School Convention and Sundays of Quarterly and Annual Conferences. Two other Sundays may be allowed if due to act of Providence.



It shall be the duty of the Sunday School Board to promote the standard requirements of the Sunday Schools of the Holiness Methodist Church

The pastor shall be ex-officio Chairperson

DIVISION IV

Temporal Economy

A CHURCH PROPERTY

1 Annual Conference Trustees

There shall be a Board of Annual Conference Trustees of the Holiness Methodist Church composed of three (3) members. This Board shall be elected at each Annual Conference and must be members of the Annual Conference. Vacancies shall be filled by appointment of the Presiding Bishop.

DUTIES The Annual Conference Board of Trustees shall receive, collect, and hold in trust for the benefit of the Conference any donations, grants or land, and other Conference property and requests. The Board of Trustees shall also constitute the Conference Building Committee. Titles to all churches of the Conference shall be vested in the Annual Conference Board of Trustees in trust for the use and benefit of the ministry and membership of the Lumber River Conference of the Holiness Methodist Church, subject to the discipline, and usage and ministerial appointment of said church as from time to time authorized and declared. The real property used by any local church may be sold, transferred or mortgaged only upon the following procedure and conditions:

1 Such action shall be authorized by the Annual Conference at a regular meeting or at a meeting that is called for that particular purpose upon at least 14 days notice to all delegates to such conference, such action to be passed by a three-fourths vote of the members of the Annual Conference. The resolution of the Conference authorizing such action shall direct the Conference Board of Trustees to execute the instrument of sale, conveyance, transfer or mortgage.

2 Such action shall also be authorized by a three-fourth vote of the members of the local church at a special meeting called to consider such an action, said meeting to be called by notice given from the pulpit of the church of the proposed action and the date and time of the meeting at least 14 days prior thereto. The resolution of the meeting of the members of the local church shall direct the local trustees of that church to join in the execution of the Instrument of sale, conveyance, transfer or mortgage and the signatures of said local trustees shall be necessary to pass title.

3 Action for the sale, transfer, or mortgage of property used by a local church may be begun either by the Annual Conference or by the members of the local church, but the Joint action of both bodies shall be necessary to complete such action.

4 Local Church Trustees

Each Local church shall have a Board of Trustees composed of three members elected annually by the fourth quarterly conference upon the recommendation of the pastor. The church Board of Trustees shall be custodian of the church property, both real and personal, and shall be responsible for the maintenance and protection of such property and shall protect religious gatherings. Trustees of our churches have no right by virtue as to their office to permit them to be used for other than Conference approved Christian Practices.

5 Local Church Stewards

Each Local church shall have a Board of Stewards composed of three (3) members appointed by Pastor and approved by the Official Board. The Stewards shall make preparation for the Lord's Supper, examine the local church Treasurer's records quarterly for accuracy, collect all offerings within the congregation, encourage the giving of offerings and tithes, and to report any temporal needs of church members to the Official Board.

B Church Finance

1 The work of the Church requires the support of its Laity, and participation therein through service, pledges, titles and gifts as a means of grace. In order that all members of the Lumber River Conference of



the Holiness Methodist Church may share in its manifold ministries and that the work committed to us may prosper, the financial plan which follows has been approved and adopted

C Conference Budget

- 1 The Presiding Bishop shall appoint a Budget Committee to make a diligent and detailed study of the needs of all the general causes or authorized agencies of the conference to be included in the conference budget
- 2 To prepare and present a budget to the Annual Conference for approval for the next fiscal year
- 3 After the budget is approved it shall be allocated to the various churches on the basis of church membership

D Church Budget

- 1 The Pastor shall appoint a Budget Committee to make a diligent and detailed study of the financial needs of all the general causes of the church to be included in the church budget
- 2 The church Budget Committee shall prepare and present the church budget at the first quarterly conference for its approval
- 3 All checks must be signed by Treasurer and a duly elected co-signer



DIVISION V

Judicial Administration

A TRIAL OF A CHURCH MEMBER

1 Neglect of Means of Grace

If a member of the Church shall habitually neglect the means of grace, such as Public Worship of God, the Lord's Supper, searching the Scriptures, Class Meetings, and Prayer Meetings, the Pastor in Charge, or Class Leader shall visit them and explain the consequences of their continued neglect. If they do not amend, they shall be brought to trial and if found guilty of willful neglect they are to be expelled.

2 Imprudent Conduct

In cases of neglect of duties of any kind, imprudent conduct, indulging in sinful tempers or words, disobedience to the Order and Discipline of the Church, on the first offense, let private reproof be given by the Pastor or Class Leader, and if there be an acknowledgment of the fault and proper humiliation, the person may be borne with. On further offense the Pastor or Class Leader may take with him one or two discreet members of the Church. On continued offense let him be brought to trial, and if found guilty and there be no sign of real humiliation, they shall be expelled.

3 Causing Dissension

If a member of the Church shall be accused of endeavoring to sow dissension in the Church by inveighing against its Doctrines of Discipline, its Clergy or Members, or in any other manner, the person so offending shall first be reprovved by the Pastor in charge or Class Leader, and if they persist in such pernicious practice, they shall be brought to trial and if found guilty, shall be expelled.

B TRIAL OF AN ELDER

Each Annual Conference shall elect three (3) Elders of the most discreet and experienced men in the Annual Conference, who shall be a Standing Investigation Committee. If a complaint is brought before the Standing Investigating Committee against an Elder and a trial is deemed necessary, said Standing Investigating Committee shall select two (2) discreet and experienced lay members, who shall together with said Standing Investigating Committee constitute a Judiciary Committee for the trial of the case in question. In case of the incapacity of any clergy member of said committee to serve as above, by reason of sickness, removal, death, or other cause, then the Presiding Bishop of the conference shall have the power to fill such vacancy, Said Judiciary Committee shall constitute a court for the trial of the complaint, With power to acquit, censure, or suspend until the next session of the Annual Conference, whose decision shall be final.

- 1 If a written complaint is brought before the Standing Investigation Committee against an Elder and/or any member of the Lumber River Holiness Methodist Conference, the written complaint must be dated and signed
- 2 The letter must be placed inside an envelope and sealed
- 3 The envelope must be signed and dated on the outside
- 4 This envelope must then be placed in another envelope and addressed to the Standing Investigation Committee, c/o named Chairman



PASTORS

A Pastor IS a preacher who, by appointment of the Cabinet or the Bishop, or the Superintendent, is in charge of a station or Circuit
The duties of the Pastor are

1. To preach the gospel of Jesus Christ
2. To bury the dead, and perform the marriage ceremony, according to the Book of Discipline
3. To administer the Sacraments of Baptism and the Lord's Supper.
4. To make pastoral visits in order to give guidance and help members of the church and others in need of pastoral oversight
5. No Conference Clergy is allowed to execute either in our churches or off-site the marriage ceremony when one or both of the participants has been previously married and their former spouse is still living.
6. To instruct probationers in the doctrines, rules, and regulations of the church
7. To receive persons into membership, to receive and dismiss members by certificate
8. To hold or appoint prayer meetings, love feasts, and watch-night meetings, wherever advisable

9. To arrange appointment, wherever practical, so as to give the local preachers ample work to do

10. To appoint class leaders, for a term of one (1) year, to change them when necessary and to examine each of them concerning their method of leading a class
11. To see that the General Rules of the church are read and explained each year in each congregation, and to see that the ordinances and regulations of the church are duly observed
12. In the absence of the Superintendent and the Bishop, the Pastor shall control the appointment of all services to be held in the church in his charge Restrictions. No Pastor shall use other than an accredited Holiness Methodist preacher when there are objections from its members
13. To hold Quarterly Conferences, at the request of the Superintendent
14. To promote Christian education, and to urge upon parents the importance of educating their children
15. To urge the people in the bounds of his charge to supply their homes with Christian literature, including books, periodicals, and church-school literature
16. To make a written report to each Quarterly Conference, as directed in our Discipline
17. To furnish to every person uniting with the church, a certificate of membership and a "Book of Discipline" of the Lumber River Conference of the Holiness Methodist Church
18. To make reports to the Annual Conference of all Items required for the statistics of the conferences, and to deliver to the conference treasurer quarterly all conference funds
19. **Restrictions:** No Pastor shall engage other than an accredited Holiness Methodist Evangelist without first obtaining prior consent of the Conference Superintendent, or the Presiding Bishop
20. The Pastor shall be ex-officio member of all church Boards and Committees

Conference Superintendent

The Conference Superintendent is elected as provided by the Book of Discipline The duties of the Conference Superintendent are:

- 1 To visit the Churches in order to preach and to oversee the spiritual and temporal affairs of the various circuits or charges
- 2 To preside as Chairperson of the Quarterly Conferences
- 3 To consult with the Pastors in regard to their pastoral responsibilities and other matters affecting the ministry of our Lord.
- 4 To make or change the appointments of preachers in the Intervals between sessions of the Annual Conference If necessary to see that the rules and regulations of the church are observed This action must be approved by the Presiding Bishop
- 5 To perform such other duties as prescribed in the Book of Discipline
- 6 Not allowed to pastor a church

Presiding Bishop

The duties of a Presiding Bishop are:

- 1 To preside over the Annual Conference
- 2 To change the appointments of the Clergy in the Intervals between the sessions of the Annual Conference, as necessity may require in order to see that the rules and regulations of the church are observed This action to be taken after consultation with the Conference Superintendent
- 3 To perform such other duties as prescribed in the Book of Discipline
- 4 The Presiding Bishop shall be ex-officio member of all Conference Boards and Committees
- 5 These rules and regulations shall be in effect from and after adoption
- 6 Allowed the privilege to pastor a church

Ordination/Qualification Board



The Presiding Bishop after consultation with the Conference Superintendent shall appoint an Ordination Qualification Board consisting of three (3) Elders. Said appointment to be confirmed by the Annual Conference

Duties of the Ordination Qualification Board shall be

- 1 To set up guidance courses for persons in church vocation, and those seeking to enter
 - a Local Preachers
 - 1 Introduction to the Ministry
 - 2 The History and Doctrine of the Methodist Church
 - 3 Pastoral Counseling and Church Rituals
 - 4 Church Administration
 - 5 Pastor's Study
 - 6 History of Christianity
 - b Clergy on Trial
 - 1 First-year course of study - "Church Administration"
 - 2 Second-year course of study - "A Study of the Gospel of Matthew"
- 2 To appoint one or more instructors for said courses
- 3 The Ordination Qualification Board shall have power to recommend suitable local preachers to the Annual Conference to pursue the course of study. Local Preachers shall be deemed suitable upon the completion of the work prescribed by the Ordination Qualification Board
- 4 To recommend that Clergy who are unable to perform because of impaired health or other equally sufficient reasons, are unable to perform full work, be placed in the Supernumerary Status
- 5 Vacancies arising in the Ordination Qualification Board shall be filled by appointment of the Presiding Bishop
- 6 To act in lieu of Local church board approving Clergy coming into the Conference Candidates must write a letter and be signed by candidate and their Local Church Pastor or Official Board Member and forwarded to Ordination Qualification Board by the Third Quarter

CABINET

The Cabinet is composed of the Presiding Bishop, or Presiding Officer of the Annual Conference and the Church Delegates the regular business of the Cabinet is to make recommendation to the Bishop concerning pastoral appointments.

ANNUAL CONFERENCE STEWARDS

Each Annual Conference shall appoint two (2) of its members as Conference Stewards whose duties shall be to examine the Conference Treasurer's Report and make a written report at each Annual Conference The Stewards shall make preparation for the Lord's Supper, Love Feasts, examine the Conference Treasurer's records annually for accuracy, collection of all offerings in congregation, encourage the giving of offerings and tithes, and to report any temporal needs of conference members to the Presiding Bishop.

SUNDAY SCHOOL BOARD

Each Annual Conference shall appoint a Sunday School Board composed of the Conference Sunday School Supervisor, the Assistant Sunday School Supervisor and the Sunday School Superintendents from each local church within the Conference. This Board shall meet at least four times each year. It shall promote and have general charge of the Sunday School work of the churches. It shall cooperate with the Sunday School Supervisor in giving directions and advice. It shall supervise the teacher training work of the Sunday School This Board shall aid in the training of the young people in Christian Education, piety, works of mercy and general church work

Annual Conference Treasurer

Each Annual Conference shall elect a Conference Treasurer whose duties shall be to receive and hold all Conference funding subject to the order of the Annual Conference, and to make a written report of all Conference monies received and expended. The Conference Secretary shall serve as Treasurer in lieu of the Conference Treasurer.

Application for money out of the Conference Treasury must be made to the Annual Conference Trustees in a called meeting If two thirds (2/3) approve the application, in writing, It is presented to the Presiding Bishop, or presiding officer of the Conference With the Bishop's written approval, the application is presented to the Treasurer and the money is given provided the required amount is in the treasury

Duties of the Conference Treasurer

1. Deposit all collections in a timely manner.
2. File all Internal Revenue and tax documents as required by law.



3. Pay all Conference employees on a quarterly basis
4. To secure and pay all Conference debts as required
5. Report in writing to the Conference Secretary of all monies collected
6. Report to the Annual Conference a Balance Sheet for the Treasury
7. Following adoption of the Conference budget send apportionment figures to the local church pastors.
8. Provide Conference approved funds to the appropriate program
9. Meet with the Budget Committee the first Saturday in August

The Ministry and Church Officers

No person shall be licensed as a local preacher until he had been previously licensed as an Exhorter and has been recommended by the Quarterly Conference of the circuit, or station, to which he belongs and has been examined by the Quarterly Conference or Superintendent in regard to his soundness in doctrine, and his piety, gifts, and usefulness have been duly considered. No man shall be admitted as an Exhorter who has two living wives. No one shall be licensed until satisfactory answers are given "Of the examination of one who thinks that he is moved by the Holy Ghost to Preach" The following questions shall be asked the candidate, with any others

- 1 Do you know God as a pardoning God?
- 2 Have you the love of God abiding in you?
- 3 Do you believe you are called of God to preach the Gospel?

The Quarterly Conference shall consider the following concerning one who claims to be called to the Ministry Has he gifts as well as grace for the work? Has he fruits? Does he speak justly, readily, clearly, and with a clear understanding of salvation by faith

Some rules of conduct for a Preacher Be diligent, be serious, be punctual, walk closely with God, have the work of God at heart, seek the welfare of human souls, be a Bible Preacher, search the scripture, walk worthy of his high calling and observe disciplinary rules. A local Preacher shall serve two (2) years, as a local Preacher, before he is recommended to the Ordination Qualification Board

Ministers on Trial

Minister on Trial must have a high school education or equivalent That upon reception into the Lumber River Conference of the Holiness Methodist Church, the clergy(s) on trial will be issued appropriate license The license will be in effect from date of reception in said conference

The above mentioned license will give the recipient the authority and privilege to Pastor a church (if so called), to bury the dead, to assist in the giving of Communion, to perform weddings and other rituals that are common to a local church (love feast)

Deacons

A Deacon is constituted by the election of the Annual Conference and the laying on of the hands of the Presiding Bishop A Deacon has authority to preach, to conduct Divine Worship, to Baptize, to assist the elder in administering the Lord's Supper, and to solemnize Matrimony The Local Preachers who have labored in the traveling connection for two (2) successive years, completed and passed the courses prescribed by the Ordination Qualification Board are eligible for recommendation by said board to the office of Deacon All Preachers must be ordained before they are received into full connection



Elders

An Elder is constituted by the election of the Annual Conference, and by the laying on the hands of the Presiding Bishop and one or more Elders. An Elder has authority to preach, to conduct Divine Worship, to Baptize, to administer the Lord's Supper, and to solemnize Matrimony. The Deacons who have been in full membership in the Annual Conference for two (2) successive years, completed and passed the courses prescribed by Ordained Clergy Board are eligible for recommendation by said board to the office of Elder. An Elder is eligible to the office of Superintendent or Bishop

Station Church

Qualifications for a Church to become and remain a Station Church with a full time Pastor are as follows:

- 1 Must have and maintain a first class Sunday School
- 2 Must have and maintain a Young Peoples organization for Christian training and service
- 3 Must pay conference funds as prescribed by the Annual Conference
- 4 When a Church carries out the above requirements for two (2) successive years, said Church shall be eligible for a status of a "Station Church"
- 5 The above qualifications are the minimum requirements for remaining a Station Church

Supernumerary Clergy

A Supernumerary Clergy is one who, because of impaired health, or other equally sufficient reason, is temporarily unable to perform full work, This relation shall not be granted for more than five (5) years in succession except by a two-thirds vote of the conference, upon recommendation of the Ordination Qualification Board, and a Statement of the reason for such recommendation. He may receive an appointment, or be left without one, according to the Judgment of the Annual Conference of which he is a member, and he shall be subject to all limitations of the Book of Discipline in respect to reappointment and continuance in the same charge that apply to effective clergy. In case he has no pastoral charge he shall have a seat in the Quarterly Conference, and all the privileges of membership, in the place where he reside. He shall report to the Fourth Quarterly Conference, and to the Pastor, all marriages performed and all baptisms administered. Should he reside outside the bounds of his Annual Conference, he shall forward to it an annual report

Duties of the Conference Sunday School Supervisor

- 1 To promote the Sunday School program of the Conference
 - A Organization and classification of Sunday Schools
 - B Qualification of officers and teachers
 - 1 A member of the Church
 - 2 Each Sunday School officer and teacher must have completed first four units in courses of study or complete one of said units each year
 - 3 To become acquainted with and execute the points of standardization for Sunday Schools as set up by Conference
- 2 To promote such activities relative to
 - A Sunday School Superintendents Conference
 - B Sunday School workers Conferences
 - C Sunday School workshop activities
 - D To attend and Lead all Fifth Sunday Sing events and the Sunday School Convention.
- 3 Render annual report of the year's work
- 4 Make such recommendations as felt needful for improving our Sunday School Programs
- 5 Prepare certificates and distribute for New Training for Service Recipients
- 6 Obtain and deliver Plaques for 20-year service awards
- 7 Hold quarterly meeting of all Sunday School Superintendents for dissemination of information and collaboration of ideas

Duties of the Conference Lay Leader

- 1 Cultivation and promotion of Christian Stewardship relative to
 - A Vacation Bible School workshops
 - B Youth for Christ organization and classes
 - C Organizing Outdoor Activities
 - D To schedule five meetings each year with all Church Lay Leaders and their assistants



- E Oversee Youth Revival, Conference Family and Mission Day and the Young People's Singing
 - F Foster mutual understanding and Christian Brotherhood in the
 Church and community
- 2 To Establish a good rapport with all Church Lay Leaders and Assistants
 - 3 Render annual report of the year's work to the Annual Conference including fund-raisers, money collections and disbursements for all events
 - 4 Make such recommendations as deemed necessary for improving Church programs

Duties of the Conference Secretary

Each Annual Conference shall elect a Conference Secretary whose duties shall be:

1. To keep a record of the proceedings of the Annual Session
2. To serve as custodian of all Conference Proceedings
3. Produce the minutes from all proceedings and forward them to Conference Clergy and Laity for future approval
4. To develop and distribute Conference report forms as needed.
5. Prepare for production the "Journal" from Annual Conference and distribute to the Local Church
6. To aid pastors in the production of letters as needed
- 7 Disseminate information to all the Conference Bar Members concerning April and August Special Sessions.
8. To inform the Clergy regarding meetings and concerns from the Office of the Bishop



DIVISION VI

Worship and Ritual

Baptism

THE BAPTISM OF INFANTS

Dearly beloved, forasmuch as all men are heirs of life eternal and subjects of the saving grace of the Holy Spirit, and that our Savior Christ said, Suffer the little children to come unto me, and forbid them not, for such is the kingdom of God, I beseech you to call upon God the Father, through our Lord Jesus Christ, that of His bounteous goodness he will grant unto this child, now to be baptized The continual replenishing of His grace that he become a worthy member of Christ's Holy Church

Then shall the Officiate say:

LET US PRAY:

Almighty and everlasting God, we beseech thee that of thine Infinite goodness thou wilt look upon this child(ren) and grant that by the aid of the Holy Spirit they may be steadfast in faith, Joyful through hope, and rooted in love, and that he may so live the life which now is, that they may enter triumphantly the life which is to come, through Jesus Christ our Lord Amen

Then shall the Officiate address the parents or sponsors as follows:

Dearly beloved, forasmuch as this child(ren) is/are now presented by you for Christian Baptism, and is thus consecrated to God and to His Church, it is your part and duty to see that he/she be taught, as soon as be able to learn the meaning and purpose of this holy Sacrament, that they be instructed in the principles of the holy faith and the nature of the Christian life, that they be trained to give reverent attendance upon the public and private worship of God and the teaching of the Holy Scripture, and that In every way, by precept and example, you shall seek to lead them into the love of God and the service of our Lord Jesus Christ

Do you solemnly promise to fulfill these duties so far as you are capable, the Lord being your helper?

WE DO.

Then shall the people stand and the Clergyman shall say:

Hear the words of the Gospel written by St Mark:

And they brought young children to Him, that He should touch them, and He is disciples rebuked those that brought them, but when Jesus saw it, He was much displeased, and said unto them, let the little children come unto me, and forbid them not, for such is the kingdom of God Verily I say unto you, Whosoever shall not receive the kingdom of God as a little child, he shall not enter therein And He took them up in His arms, put His hands upon them and blessed them

Then shall the Clergyman, who may here take the child in his arms, say to the parents or sponsor:

What name shall be given to this child?

And then, repeating the name, he shall baptize the child, saying:

(NAME), I baptize thee in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit Amen

Then shall the Clergyman say:

LET US PRAY

O God, our Heavenly Father, grant that this child, as he grows in years, may also grow in grace and knowledge of the Lord Jesus Christ, and that by the restraining and renewing influence of the Holy Spirit he may ever be a true child of God, serving thee faithfully all his days, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen



Almighty God, fountain of all love and wisdom, source of all power, so guide and uphold the parents (or sponsor) of this child that, by loving care, wise counsel, and bold example, they may lead him into the life of faith whose strength is righteousness and whose fruit is everlasting joy and peace, through Jesus Christ our Lord Amen

Or the Clergyman may offer an informal prayer.

Then may the Clergyman and the people say:

Our Father which art in Heaven, Hallowed be Thy name, Thy kingdom come, Thy Will be done in earth as it is in Heaven. Give us this day our daily bread and forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil For thine is the Kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever Amen

THE BAPTISM OF ADULTS

The Clergyman, addressing the people, shall say:

Dearly beloved, forasmuch as our Savior Jesus Christ sent forth His disciples to teach all nations and baptize them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit, and wherefore these persons come now to be baptized, I beseech you to call upon God the Father that of His bounteous goodness He will grant unto them the renewing power of the Holy Spirit and enable them by divine grace to attain unto the fullness of salvation in Jesus Christ our Lord

LET US PRAY

Almighty and Immortal God, the aid of all the need, the helper of all that flee to thee for succor, the life of them that believe, and the resurrection of the dead, we call upon Thee for these persons now to be baptized. May they be filled with thy Holy Spirit and may they find in Thee their wisdom, and joy May they be faithful to Thee all the days of their life and finally come to the Eternal Kingdom which thou has promised, through Jesus Christ our Lord Amen

Then may be read one or more of the following lessons:

Peter said unto them, repent, and be baptized every one of you in the name of Jesus Christ for the remission of sins, and ye shall receive the gift of the Holy Spirit For the promise is unto you, and to your children, and to all that are afar off, even as many as the Lord our God shall call And with many other words did he testify and exhort, saying, save yourselves from this untoward generation Then they that gladly received his word were baptized, and the same day there were added unto them about three thousand souls And they continued steadfastly in the apostles' doctrine and fellowship, in the breaking of bread, and in prayer

There was a man of the Pharisees, named Nicodemus, a ruler of the Jews the same came to Jesus by night, and said unto Him Rabbi, we know that thou are a teacher come from God for no man can do these miracles that thou doest, except God be with him Jesus answered and said unto him, Verily, verily, I say unto thee Except a man be born again, he cannot see the kingdom of God Nicodemus said unto him, how can a man be born when he is old? Can he enter the second time into his mother's womb, and be born? Jesus answered, Verily, verily, I say unto thee, Except a man be born of water and of the Spirit, he cannot enter into the Kingdom of God That which is born of the flesh is flesh, and that which is born of the Spirit is spirit Marvel not that I said unto thee, ye must be born again The wind bloweth where it listeth, and thou hearest the sound thereof, but canst not tell whence it cometh, and whither it goeth, so is every one that is born of the Spirit

Then shall the Clergy say to the people to be baptized?

Dearly beloved, who have come hither desiring to receive Holy Baptism, the congregation gives thanks to God for your coming, and prays that the Holy Sprit may dwell within you, and that your faith may not fail In the hearing of this congregation you should now make known your purpose to accept the obligations of this holy Sacrament

Do you truly repent of your sins and accept and confess Jesus Christ as your Savior and Lord?

I DO.

Will you earnestly endeavor to keep God's holy will and commandments?



I WILL

Do you desire to be baptized in this faith?

I DO.

Then the following prayer shall be read:

O merciful God, grant that all sinful affections may die in these persons, and that all things belonging to the Spirit may live and grow in them

Almighty, everlasting God, regard, we beseech Thee, our supplications and grant that these persons may receive fullness of thy face, and ever remain in the number of thy faithful and beloved children, through Jesus Christ our Lord Amen

Then asking the name of each person, shall baptize them repeating the name and saying:

(NAME), I baptize thee in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit Amen

Then may the Clergyman offer extemporary prayer. Then the Clergyman and the People say:

Our Father which art in Heaven,, Hallowed be thy name, thy kingdom come, thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven Give us this day our dally bread And forgive us our debts as we forgive our debtors. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory forever. Amen



Reception of Members

Dearly beloved brethren The Church is the household of God, the body of which Christ is the head The fellowship of the Church is the communion that its members enjoy one with another The means and ends of this fellowship are the promotion of Holiness It is the duty of all men to unite in this fellowship, for It IS only those who are planted in the house of the Lord that shall flourish in the courts of our God Among its privileges are peculiar incitements to Holiness from the hearing of God's Word and sharing in Christ's ordinances, and the being placed under the enjoyment of the blessings which are only promised to those who are of the household of faith Into this holy fellowship, the persons before you, who have already been baptized and have been on six months trial, come seeking admission We now purpose to question them as to their faith and purposes, that you may know that they are proper persons to be admitted into the Church

Dearly beloved, you have come hither seeking the great privilege of union with the Church of God We rejoice that He has called you to be His followers, and before you are fully admitted thereto it is right that you should here publicly renew your vows, confess your faith, and declare your purpose, by answering the following questions

1 Do you have saving faith in the Lord Jesus Christ?

I DO

2 Do you believe fully in the doctrine of Holiness?

I DO

3 Will you be governed by the Rules and Discipline of the Lumber River Conference of the Holiness Methodist Church, hold sacred the ordinances of God, and promote the welfare of your brethren and the advancement of the Redeemer's kingdom?

I WILL

4 Will you help support the gospel and benevolent enterprises of the Church?

I WILL

Brethren, these persons have given satisfactory answers to our inquiries, have you any reason to allege why they should not be received into full membership in the Church?

No objection, the Clergyman shall say to the candidates.

We welcome you to the communion of the Church of God, and in testimony of our Christian affection we hereby extend to you the right hand of fellowship. May God grant that you may be a faithful and useful member of the Church Militant till you are called to the fellowship of the Church Triumphant, which is without fault before the throne of God



THE LORD'S SUPPER

If any man sin, we have an advocate with the Father, therefore as we have opportunity, let us do good unto all men, especially unto them who are of the household of faith Wherefore ye that do earnestly repent of your sins, and now intend to lead a new life, following the commandments of God, and walking from henceforth in His holy ways, draw near with faith, take this holy sacrament to your comfort, and devoutly kneeling, make your humble confession to Almighty God

The Confession

Almighty God, Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, we acknowledge that we have sinned against thy Divine Majesty, provoking thy wrath and indignation against us We do earnestly repent and are heartily sorry for these our misdoings, the remembrance of them is grievous unto us Have mercy upon us most Merciful Father, for our Lord Jesus Christ' sake forgive us all that is past, and grant that we may hereafter serve and please thee in newness of life, to the honor and glory of thy name, through Jesus Christ our Lord Amen

We do not come to this thy table, O Lord, trusting in our own righteousness, but in thy manifold and great mercies We are not worthy so much as to gather up the crumbs under thy table But thou art the same Lord whose property is always to have mercy Grant us, therefore, gracious Lord, so to eat the flesh of thy dear Son, Jesus Christ, and to drink His blood, that we may live and grow thereby, and that being washed in His most precious blood, we may evermore dwell in Him and He in us, Amen



Prayer of Consecration

Almighty God, our Heavenly Father, who of thy tender mercy did give thine only son, Jesus Christ, to suffer death upon the cross for our redemption, who made there, by His oblation of Himself once offered a full, perfect and sufficient sacrifice, obligation and satisfaction, for the sins of the whole world, and did institute, and in His Holy Gospel command us to continue, a perpetual memory of His precious death until His coming Hear us, O merciful Father, we most humbly beseech Thee, and grant that we receiving these thy creatures of bread and wine, according to our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ's holy institutions, in remembrance of His death and passion, may be partakers of His most blessed Body and Blood, who, in the same night that He was betrayed, took bread, and when He had given thanks, He broke it, and gave it to His disciples, saying, take, eat, this is my body which is given for you, do this in remembrance of me Likewise, after supper He took the cup, and when He had given thanks, He gave it to them, saying, drink ye all of this for this is my blood which is shed for you, for the remission of sins, do this, as oft as ye shall drink it, in remembrance of me. Amen

It is very meet, right and our duty that we should at all times and in all places give thanks unto Thee, O Lord, Holy Father, Almighty, Everlasting God, therefore with angels and archangels, and with all the company of Heaven, we laud and magnify thy glorious name, evermore praising thee, and saying holy, holy, holy, Lord God of Host, heaven and earth are full of thy glory! Glory be to thee, O Lord, most high. Amen

Then shall the communion be administered to the people.

As the Minister delivereth the bread, he shall say:

The body of our Lord Jesus Christ, which was given for thee, preserve thy soul and body unto everlasting life, Take and eat this in remembrance that Christ died for thee and feed on Him by faith and be thankful

The Minister that delivereth the cup shall say:

The blood of our Lord Jesus Christ, which was shed for thee, preserve thy soul and body unto everlasting life Drink this in remembrance that Christ's blood was shed for thee, and be thankful

The congregation kneeling, shall repeat

Our Father which art in Heaven,, Hallowed be thy name, thy kingdom come, thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven Give us this day our dally bread And forgive us our debts as we forgive our debtors. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory forever. Amen

Love Feasts

Love feasts shall be held quarterly, or at other times as the Minister in charge may deem expedient In conducting love feasts, after singing and prayer, the Minister or an Exhorter designated by him may read a suitable scripture lesson and make a short talk or exhortation, setting forth the purpose of the love feast, then let every one present partake of the bread and water in testimony of their love and friendship, following this with a brief account of their religious experience Let the meeting be closed with singing and prayer

The Order For The Solemnization of Matrimony

At the time appointed, the persons to be married—having been qualified according to the law of the State and the standards of the Church standing together facing the Minister, the man at the Minister's left hand the woman at the right, the

Officiate shall say:

Dearlly beloved, we are gathered here in the sight of God, and in the Presence of these witnesses, to join together this man and this woman in holy matrimony, which is an honorable estate instituted of God, and signifying unto us the mystical union which exists between Christ and His Church, which holy estate Christ adorned and beautified with His presence in Cana of Galilee It is therefore not to be entered into unadvisedly, but reverently, discreetly, and in the fear of God, into this Holy Estate these two persons come now to be joined



Speaking to the persons to be married, the Officiate shall say:

I require and charge you both, as you stand in the presence of God, to remember that love and loyalty alone will avail as the foundation of a happy and enduring home. No other human ties are more tender, no other vow more sacred than those you now assume. If these solemn vows be kept inviolate, and if steadfastly you endeavor to do the will of your Heavenly Father, your life will be full of joy and the home which you are establishing will abide in peace.

Then shall the Officiate say to the man, using his Christian name:

(NAME), wilt thou have this woman to be thy wedded wife, to live together in the holy estate of matrimony? Wilt thou love her, comfort her, honor and keep her, in sickness and in health, and forsaking all others keep thee only unto her, as long as ye both shall live?

The man shall answer:

I WILL.

Then shall the Officiate say to woman, using her Christian name:

(NAME), wilt thou have this man to be thy wedded husband, to live together in the holy estate of matrimony? Wilt thou love him, comfort him, honor and keep him, in sickness and in health, and forsaking all others keep thee only unto him, as long as ye both shall live?

The woman shall answer:

I WILL.

Then may the Officiate say:

Who giveth this woman to be married to this man?

The father of the woman, or whoever giveth her in marriage, shall answer

I DO.

Then the Officiate (*receiving the hand of the woman from her father or other sponsor*) shall cause the man with his right hand to take the woman by her right hand, and say after the Minister.

I, (NAME), take thee, (NAME), to be my wedded wife, to have and to hold, from this day forward, for better, for worse, for richer, for poorer, in sickness and in health, to love and to cherish, till death us do part, according to God's holy ordinance, and thereto I plight thee my troth



Then shall they loose their hands and the woman, with her right hand taking the man by his right hand, shall say after the Minister

I, (NAME?), take thee (NAME?), to be my wedded husband, to have and to hold, from this day forward, for better, for worse, for richer, for poorer, in sickness and in health, to love and to cherish, till death us do part, according to God's holy ordinance, and thereto I plight thee my troth

Then shall they again loose their hands, and the man may give unto the woman a ring, on this wise,

The Officiate, taking the ring, shall say

This ring is an outward and visible sign of an inward and spiritual grace, signifying unto all the uniting of this man and this woman in holy matrimony, through the Church of Jesus Christ our Lord

Then the Officiate may say:

LET US PRAY

Bless, O Lord, the giving of this ring, that he who gives it and she who wears it may abide forever in Thy peace and continue in Thy favor, through Jesus Christ our Lord Amen

The **Officiate** shall then deliver the ring to the man to put upon the third finger of the woman's left hand, The man, holding the ring then **shall say after the Minister**

In token and pledge of the vow between us made, with this ring I thee wed, in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit Amen

In case of a **double-ring ceremony**, the Minister shall deliver the other ring to the woman to put upon the third finger of the man's left hand, and the woman, holding the ring then, **shall say after the Officiate**

In token and pledge of the vow between us made, with this ring I thee wed, in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit Amen

Then shall the Officiate say:

LET US PRAY

Eternal God, Creator and Preserver of all mankind, Giver of all spiritual grace, the Author of everlasting life, send Thy blessing upon this man and this woman, whom we bless in Thy name; that they may surely perform and keep the vow and covenant between them made, and may ever remain in perfect love and peace together, and live according to Thy laws.

Look graciously upon them, that they may love, honor and cherish each other and so live together in faithfulness and patience, in wisdom and true godliness, that their home may be a haven of blessing and a place of peace, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.



Then shall the Officiate join their right hands together and with his hand on their joined hands shall say:

Forasmuch as (*NAME*) and (*NAME*) have consented together in holy wedlock, and have witnessed the same before God and this company, and thereto have pledged their troth each to the other, and have declared the same by joining hands (and by giving and receiving a ring); I pronounce that they are husband and wife together, in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit Those who God hath joined together, let not man put asunder Amen.

Then the husband and wife kneeling, the Officiate shall say:

LET US PRAY.

Our Father which art in Heaven,, Hallowed be thy name, thy kingdom come, thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven Give us this day our daily bread And forgive us our debts as we forgive our debtors. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory forever. Amen

Then shall the Officiate add this blessing:

God the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, bless, preserve, and keep you, the Lord graciously with His favor look upon you, and so fill you with all spiritual benediction and love that you may so live together in this life that in the world to come you may have life everlasting. Amen



Burial of the Dead

(In the house or at the Church may be read one or both of the following scriptures, or some other suitable Scripture)

Lord, thou has been our dwelling place in all generations

Before the mountains were brought forth, or ever thou hadst formed the earth and the world, from everlasting to everlasting, thou art God

Thou turnest man to destruction, and sayest, return, ye children of men

For a thousand years in Thy sight are but as yesterday when it is past, and as a watch in the night

Thou carriest them away as with a flood, they are as sleep in the morning they are like grass which groweth up

In the morning it flourisheth and groweth up, in the evening it is cut down, and withereth

But now is Christ risen from the dead and become the first fruits of them that slept. For since by man came death, by man came also the resurrection of the dead

For as in Adam all die, even so in Christ shall all be made alive

At the burial of a child the following Scriptures may be used instead of those above)

2 Sam. 12:16-23 David therefore besought God for the child, and David fasted, and went in, and lay all night upon the earth

And the elders of his house arose, and went to him, to raise him up from the earth, but he would not, neither did he eat bread with them

And it came to pass on the seventh day, that the child died And the servants of David feared to tell him that the child was dead for they said, Behold, while the child was yet alive, we spake unto him, and he would not hearken unto our voice how will he then vex himself, If we tell him that the child is dead?



But when David saw that his servants whispered, David perceived that the child was dead therefore David said unto his servants, is the child dead*? And they said, he is dead

When David arose from the earth, and washed and anointed himself, and changed his apparel, and came unto the house of the Lord, and worshipped then he came to his own house, and when he required, they set bread before him, and he did eat

Then said his servants unto him, what thing is this that thou hast done? Thou didst fast and weep for the child, while it was alive, but when the child was dead, thou didst rise and eat bread

And he said, while the child was yet alive, I fasted and wept for I said, Who can tell whether God Will be gracious to me, that the child may live?

But now he is dead, should I fast? Can I bring him back again? I shall go to him, but he shall not return to me.

Mark 10 13-16 And they brought young children to Him, that He should touch them and the disciples rebuked those that brought them

But when Jesus saw it, He was much displeased, and said unto them, suffer the little children to come unto me, and forbid them not, for such is the kingdom of God

Verily I say unto you, Whosoever shall not receive the kingdom of God as a little child, he shall not enter therein

And He took them up in His arms, and put His hands upon them, and blessed them

At the grave the Clergy shall say:

Man that is born of a woman hath but a short time to live and is full of misery He cometh up and is cut down like a flower, he fleeth as it were a shadow, and never continueth in one stay In the midst of life we are in death of whom may we seek for succor, but of thee, O Lord, who for our sins are justly displeased? Yet, O Lord God Most Holy, O Lord Most Mighty, O Holy and Most Merciful Savior, deliver us not into the bitter pains of eternal death Thou knowest, Lord the secrets of our hearts, shut not Thy Merciful ears to our prayers, but spare us, Lord Most Holy, O God Most Mighty, O Holy and Merciful Savior, thou most worthy Judge eternal suffer us not at our last hour for any pain of death to fall from Thee

While the earth shall be cast upon the body the Clergy shall say:

Forasmuch as it hath pleased God, in His wise providence, to take out of the world the soul of the departed, we therefore commit their body to the ground, earth to earth, ashes to ashes, dust to dust, looking for the general resurrection in the last day, and the life of the world to come, through our Lord Jesus Christ, at whose second coming in glorious majesty to judge the world, the earth and the sea shall give up their dead, and the corruptible bodies of those who sleep in Him shall be changed and made like unto His own glorious body, according to the mighty working whereby He is able to subdue all things unto Himself

Then shall be said:

I heard a voice from Heaven saying unto me, write, from henceforth blessed are the dead who die in the Lord even so, saith the Spirit, for they shall rest from their labors

Then the Clergy shall offer extemporary prayer, then dismiss the congregation after the grave is filled.



CHAPTER VII

Ordination and Dedications

Ordaining Deacons

(When the appointed time shall have come, after a suitable sermon or exhortation, the candidate(s) shall be presented by an elder for ordination saying "I present unto you this person (These Persons)" (Reading the name or names aloud) to be ordained Deacon.

Then the Presiding Bishop shall say

Brethren, if any of you know any crime or impediment in this person presented to be ordained Deacon, for which he ought not be admitted to that office, let him come forth in the name of God and show what the crime or Impediment is

The Epistle 1 Timothy 3 8-13 Likewise must the Deacons be grave, not double-tongued, not given to much wine, not greedy of filthy lucre: holding the mystery of the faith in a pure conscience And let these also first be proved then let them use the office of a Deacon, being found blameless Even so must their wives be grave, not slanderers, sober, faithful in all things Let the Deacons be the husbands of one wife, ruling their children and their own houses well For they that have used the office of a Deacon well purchase to themselves a good degree, and great boldness in the faith which is in Christ Jesus

Examination

Are you inwardly moved by the Holy Ghost to take upon you the office of the Ordained Ministry in the Church of Christ?

I AM

Do you believe in the Scriptures of the New and Old Testament?

I DO

Will you read and teach the Holy Scriptures unto the people?

I WILL

Will you gladly and willingly obey God's word, and be led by His Holy Spirit in all things"

Do you fully believe in the doctrine of *Scriptural Holiness*?

I DO

The Presiding Bishop, laying his hand upon the head of each candidate, shall say:

Take thou authority to execute the office of a Deacon in the church of God, in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost Amen

Then the Presiding Bishop shall deliver to each one the Holy Bible, saying:

Take thou authority to read the Holy Scripture in the church of God, and to preach the same

Then the Presiding Bishop or one appointed by him shall read Luke 12:35-38.

Let your loins be girded about, and your lights burning

And ye yourselves like unto men that wait for their Lord, when He will return from the wedding, that when He cometh and knoweth, they may open unto Him immediately

Blessed are those servants, whom the Lord when He cometh shall find watching verily I say unto you, that He shall gird himself, and make them to sit down to meat, and will come forth and serve them And if He shall come in the second watch, or come in the third watch, and find them, so, blessed are those servants **After which prayer shall be offered.**



Ordaining Elders

The presentation shall be the same as that of the Deacon.

Brethren, this is he whom we purpose this day, God Willing, to ordain Elder if there be any of you who knoweth any crime or impediment in this person presented to be ordained Elder, for which he ought not be admitted to that office, let him come forth in the name of God, and show what the crime or impediment is

If no crime or impediment then shall be read the following:

If a man seeketh the office of an Elder, he desireth a good work An Elder therefore must be without reproach, the husband of one wife, temperate, sober-minded, orderly, given to hospitality, apt to teach, no brawler, no striker, but gentle, not contentious, no lover of money, one that ruleth well his own house, having his children in subjection with all gravity, for if a man know not how to rule his own house how shall he take care of the church of God? Not a novice, lest being puffed up he fall into the condemnation of the devil Moreover he must have good testimony from them that are without, lest he fall into reproach and the snare of the devil

The Epistle of the Ephesians 4:7-13

But unto every one of us is given grace according to the measure of the gift of Christ

Wherefore He saith, when He ascended up on high, He led captivity captive, and gave gifts unto men

Now that He ascended, what is it but that He also descended first into the lower part of the earth?

He that descended is the same also that ascended up far above all heavens, that He might fill all things

And He gave some, apostles, and some prophets, and some, evangelists, and some evangelists, and some, pastors and teachers.

For the perfecting of the saints, for the work of the ministry, for the edifying of the body of Christ

Till we all come in the unity of the faith, and of the knowledge of the Son of God, unto a perfect man, unto the measure of the status of the fullness of Christ

St John 10 1-16 Verily, verily, I say unto you he that entereth not by the door into the sheepfold, but climbeth up some other way, the same is a thief and a robber

But he that entereth in by the door is the shepherd of the sheep

To him the porter openeth, and the sheep hear his voice, and he calleth his own sheep by name, and leadeth them out

And when he putteth forth his own sheep, he goeth before them, and the sheep follow him for they know his voice

And a stranger will they not follow, but will flee from him, for they know not the voice of strangers



This parable spoke Jesus unto them, but they understood not what things they were which He spake unto them

Then said Jesus unto them again, verily, verily, I say unto you, I am the door of the sheep

All that ever came before me are thieves and robbers, but the sheep did not hear them

I am the door by me If any enter in, he shall be saved, and shall go in and out, and find pasture

The thief cometh not, but for to steal, and to kill, and to destroy I am come that they might have life, and that they might have It more abundantly

I am the good shepherd the good shepherd giveth his life for the sheep

But he that is an hireling, and not the shepherd, whose own the sheep, are not, seeth the wolf coming, and leaveth the sheep and fleeth, and the wolf catcheth them, and scattereth the sheep

The hireling fleeth, because he is an hireling, and careth not for the sheep

I am the good shepherd, and know my sheep, and am known of mine.

As the Father knoweth me, even so know I the Father, and I lay down my life for the sheep

And other sheep I have, which are not of this fold them also I must bring, and they shall hear my voice, and there shall be one fold, and one shepherd

After this the Presiding Bishop shall say unto the person to be ordained Elder:

Do you believe in your heart that you are truly called, according to the will of our Lord Jesus Christ, to the order of Elder?

I DO

Are you determined to instruct the people out of the Holy Scriptures, and to follow and be led by the Spirit of God in all things?

I AM

Will you then give your faithful diligence always to the Ministry the Doctrine and Sacraments, and Discipline of Christ, as the Lord hath Commanded⁷

I WILL

Will you be diligent in prayers, and in reading of the Holy Scriptures, laying aside the study of the world and the flesh?

I WILL

Will you maintain and set forward, quietness, peace, and love, among them that are or shall be committed to your charge⁷

I WILL



Will you deny all ungodliness and worldly lust, and live soberly, righteously, and holy in this present world?

I WILL

The individual being Ordained Shall Kneel:

The Presiding Bishop shall offer extemporary prayer, after which, those for ordination remain kneeling, the Presiding Bishop and the Elders present shall lay their hands upon the heads of each of them; and the Presiding Bishop shall say:

The Lord pour upon thee the Holy Ghost for the office and work of an Elder in the church of God now committed unto thee by the laying on of our hands and be thou a faithful administer of the Word of God and of His Holy Sacraments in the name of the Father, and of the Son and of the Holy Ghost. Amen

The candidates remain kneeling while the Presiding Bishop delivers an open Bible into the hands of each, and shall say:

Thou hast authority to preach the Word of God and to administer the holy Sacraments in the congregation

The Presiding Bishop again offers prayer and announces the Benediction.



Service for the Consecration of a Bishop

Brethren, this is he whom we propose, God willing, this day to ordain as Bishop and if any of you know any crime or impediment in him, for which he ought not be received into this Holy Ordination let him come forth in the name of God, and show what the crime or impediment is

If no crime or impediment the Presiding Bishop shall read the following:

Brethren, if a man seeketh the office of a Bishop, he desireth a good work The Bishop, therefore, must be without reproach, the husband of one wife, temperate, sober-minded, orderly, given to hospitality, apt to teach, no brawler, no striker, but gentle, not contentious, no lover of money, one that ruleth well his own house, having his children in subjection with all gravity, not a novice, lest being puffed up he fall into the condemnation of the devil Moreover, he must have good testimony from them that are without, lest he fall into reproach and the snare of the devil

Acts 20:28-35 Take heed therefore unto yourselves, and to all the flock, over the which the Holy Ghost hath made you overseers, to feed the Church of God, which He hath purchased with His own blood For I know this, that after my departing shall grievous wolves enter in among you, not sparing the flock

Also of your own selves shall men arise, speaking perverse things, to draw away disciples after them Therefore watch, and remember, that by the space of the three years I ceased not to warn every one, night and day With tears And now, brethren, I commend you to God, and to the work of his grace, which is able to build you up, and to give you an inheritance among all them which are sanctified I have coveted no man's silver, or gold, or apparel Yea, ye yourselves know, that these hands have ministered unto my necessities and to them that were With me I have shewed you all things, how that so laboring ye ought to support the weak, and to remember the words of the Lord Jesus how he said, it is more blessed to give than to receive

St John 21:15-17 So when they had dined Jesus saith to Simon Peter, Simon, son of Jonas, lovest thou me more than these? He saith unto him, yea Lord, Feed my lambs He saith to him again the second time, Simon, son of Jonas, Lovest thou me? He saith unto Him, Yea, Lord, thou knowest that I love thee He saith unto him, Feed my Sheep He saith unto him the third time, Simon, son of Jonas, lovest thou me? Peter was grieved because he said unto him the third time, lovest thou me? And he said unto him Lord, thou knowest all things, thou knowest that I love thee Jesus said unto him, Feed my Sheep

St . Matthew 28:18-20 And Jesus come and spake unto them, saying, All power is given unto me in heaven and in earth

Go ye therefore, and teach all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost Teaching them to observe all things whatsoever I have commanded you and, lo, I am with you always, even unto the end of the world Amen

Then the approved person shall be presented by the Elders unto the Presiding Bishop, saying:

We present unto you this/these holy man/men to be Consecrated as a Bishop

Then the Presiding Bishop shall move the congregation present to pray, saying to them:

Brethren, St Luke says, that our Savior Jesus Christ continued all night to prayer before he did choose and send forth his twelve Apostles, It is written also in the Acts of the Apostles, that the disciples who were at Antioch did fast and pray before they laid hands on Paul and Barnabas, and sent them forth on their first mission to the Gentiles Let us, therefore, follow the example of our Savior, Christ, and his Apostles, first call to prayer before we admit and send forth this/ these presented to us the work whereunto we trust the Holy Ghost hath called him

After prayer is offered, the Presiding Bishop shall say to him that is to be consecrated:

Do you feel that you are truly called to this Ordination according to the will of God?

I DO

Will you faithfully call upon God by prayer for the true understanding of the Holy Scriptures, so that you may be able by them to teach and exhort with wholesome doctrine?



I WILL

Will you deny all ungodliness, worldly lust, and live soberly, righteously, and holy in this present world, that the adversary may be ashamed, having nothing to say against you?

I WILL

Will you show yourself gentle, and be merciful to the poor and needy people, for Christ's sake?

I WILL

Will you be faithful in ordaining or laying hands upon and sending others, and in all the other duties of your office?

I WILL

Then the Presiding Bishop and Elders shall set apart the approved person, kneeling before them. After which extemporary prayer shall be offered, and the Benediction announced.



An Order For The Laying Of The Cornerstone Of A Church

At the time appointed the hymn "The Church's One Foundation Is Jesus Christ Her Lord" or appropriate hymn may be sung, all the people standing, after which the Officiate shall say:

Our help is in the name of the Lord, who made heaven and earth Except the Lord build the house, they labor in vain that build it.

Dearly beloved, we are assembled to lay the cornerstone of a new house for the worship of the God of our fathers Let us not doubt that He will favorably approve our godly purpose, and let us now devoutly invoke His blessings on this our undertaking

Then shall the Officiate offer an extemporary prayer.

Then the following lesson from the Old Testament may be read responsively by the Clergy and the Laity, the people standing:

The earth is the Lord's and the fullness thereof, the world and they that dwell therein

For He hath founded it upon the seas, and established it upon the floods

Who shall ascend into the hill of the Lord? Or who shall stand in His holy place?

He that hath clean hands, and a pure heart, who hath not lifted up his soul unto vanity, nor sworn deceitfully

He shall receive the blessing from the Lord, and righteousness from the God of his salvation



This is the generation of them that seek Him, that seek Thy face

Lift up your heads, O ye gates, and be ye lifted up; ye everlasting doors And the King of glory shall come in

Who is this King of Glory?

The Lord strong and mighty the Lord mighty in battle
Lift up your heads, O ye gates, even lift them up, ye everlasting doors
And the King of Glory shall come in

Who is this King of Glory?

The Lord of hosts, He is the King of Glory

Then may the Gloria Patri be said or sung:

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son. and to the Holy Ghost as it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end Amen

Then the following lesson from the Old Testament may be read responsively by the Officiate and the people, the people standing:

For we are laborers together with God Ye are God's husbandry, Ye are God's building According to the grace of God which is given unto me, as a wise master builder, I have laid the foundation, and another buildeth thereon But let every man take heed how he buildeth thereupon For other foundation can no man lay than that is laid, which is Jesus Christ Now If any man build upon this foundation gold, silver, precious stones, wood, hay, stubble, every man's work shall be made manifest for the day shall declare it, because It shall be revealed by fire, and the fire shall try every man's work of what sort it is If any man's work abide which he hath build thereupon, he shall receive a reward If any man's work shall be burned, he shall suffer loss but he himself shall be saved, yet so as by fire Know ye not that ye are the temple of God, and that the Spirit of God dwells in you?

Here may follow a prayer, offering, anthem, address, and hymn:

**Then, standing at the side of the cornerstone, the Officiate may read the following
Scripture sentences:**

Therefore thus saith the Lord God, behold, I lay in Zion for a foundation a stone, a tried stone, a precious cornerstone, as sure foundation

Other foundation can no man lay than that is laid, which is Jesus Christ

Then shall the Officiate offer the prayer of consecration:



Almighty God, the Rock of Ages, on thee we build all our hopes for this life and that which IS to come. Other foundation we would not seek to lay than that is laid, which is Jesus Christ, and we are to build upon this cornerstone a holy temple to the living God. Accept the act by which we lay this cornerstone. Bless those whose offerings enabled us to build this house of worship. Graciously guard and direct those who labor in erecting it, shielding them from accident and peril. May the walls of this building rise in security and in beauty, and may the hearts of these thy people be fitly joined together into a living temple, builded upon the foundation of the apostles and prophets, Jesus Christ being the chief cornerstone. Amen

Then may the Clergyman and the people recite the Litany for the laying of a cornerstone.

To the glory of God our Father, to the service of our dear Master and His Church, and to the abiding presence of the Holy Spirit,

We lay the cornerstone of this church

For a building of which Jesus Christ is the chief cornerstone, the pillar and ground of the truth

We lay this cornerstone

For a building that shall stand as a symbol of the Church Universal, the cornerstone of which is truth, the creed of which is love, and its towers eternal hope

We lay this cornerstone

For a church that shall exalt not a religion of creed or of authority, but a religion of saving grace, of personal experience, and of spiritual power

We lay this cornerstone

For a church that shall exalt the Ministry of the open Bible, with its faithful record of human life, its unfolding of the redeeming grace of God through Jesus Christ, its message of warning, inspiration, comfort, and hope

We lay this cornerstone

For a church that shall teach and incarnate the doctrine of the fatherhood of God and the brotherhood of man,

We lay this cornerstone

For a church that shall fulfill a ministry of social service and be a blessing unto men,



We lay this cornerstone.

For a church that shall be renewing and cleansing power in the community, and that loves every other communion that Exalts Christ In the service of men

We lay this cornerstone

For a church with open doors for all people, rich or poor, homeless or desolate, who need the help of God through us.

We lay this cornerstone

For a church that shall gather the children in its arms and hold them close to Christ, that they may grow up In the Church and never be lost from the fold

We lay this cornerstone

For a church which stands for the sacramental truth "It is more blessed to give than to receive"

We lay this cornerstone

For a church which takes hold on two worlds, and stands for the unseen and eternal, and which offers to men the abundant life which now is and which is to come

We lay this cornerstone in the name of Almighty God

In living memory of those who have gone from us, whose hearts and hands have served in this church, with gratitude for all whose faith and consecrated gifts make this house possible, for all who may share this spiritual adventure, and with hope for all who shall worship in this house in years to come.

We lay this cornerstone in the name of Almighty God, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, unto the ages of ages, world without end
Amen

Then the Clergyman, standing by the cornerstone, shall exhibit to the people a box to be placed in the stone. It may contain such articles as a Bible, The Methodist Hymnal, the Latest Discipline, church periodicals, name of the Pastor, Official Board, the Building Committee of the church, with such other documents as may be desired. The Minister may read the list of articles as deposited in the box. Then with the aid of the builder, the Minister shall lay the stone in its place.

Then shall the people sing a hymn.

Then shall the Officiate say:

Now unto Him that is able to keep you from falling, and to present you faultless before the presence of His glory with exceeding joy, to the only wise God our Savior, be glory and majesty, dominion and power, both now and evermore Amen

This order may be abridged according to the needs of the occasion.



An Order for the Dedication of a Church

Dearly beloved, the Scriptures teach us that God is well pleased with those who build temples to His name We have heard how He filled the temple of Solomon with His glory, and how He manifested Himself still more gloriously in the second temple Let us not doubt that He will also favorably approve our purpose of dedicating this place in solemn manner, for the performance of the several offices of Christian worship, and let us now devoutly Join in praise to His name, that this godly undertaking hath been so completed, and in prayer for His further blessing upon all who have been engaged therein, and upon all who shall worship His name here

Let a hymn be sung followed by prayer. Then shall the Minister/Officiate read the following lessons:

First Lesson- II Chronicles 6:1, 2, 18-21, 40-42; Then said Solomon, The Lord hath said that He would dwell in the thick darkness But I have built a house of habitation for thee, and a place for Thy dwelling forever

"But will God in very deed dwell with men on the earth? Behold, Heaven of heavens cannot contain thee, how much less this house which I have built" Have respect therefore to the prayer of thy servant and to his supplication, O Lord my God, to hearken unto the cry and the prayer which thy servant prayeth before thee That thine eyes may be open upon this house day and night, upon the place whereof thou said that thou wouldest put thy name there, to hearken unto the prayer which Thy servant prayeth toward this place Hearken therefore unto the supplication of Thy servant, and of Thy people Israel, which they shall make toward this place here thou from thy dwelling place, even from heaven and when thou hearest forgive

Now, my God, I beseech thee, let thine eyes be open, and let thine ears be attentive unto the prayer that is made in this place Now therefore arise, O Lord God, unto Thy resting place, thou and the ark of Thy strength let Thy priests, O Lord God, be clothed with salvation, and let Thy saints rejoice in goodness O Lord God, turn not away the face of thine anointed remember the mercies of David Thy servant



Second Lesson — Psalms 122 I was glad when they said unto me, let us go into the house of the Lord Our feet shall stand within the gates, O Jerusalem, Jerusalem is builded as a city that is compact together whither the tribes go up, the tribes of the Lord, unto the testimony of Israel, to give thanks unto the name of the Lord For thee are set thrones of judgment, the thrones of the house of David Pray for the peace of Jerusalem they shall prosper that love thee Peace be within thy walls, and prosperity within thy palaces For my brethren and companions' sakes, I will now say, peace be within thee because of the house of the Lord our God I will seek thy good

The Act of Dedication

Then after singing a hymn the Minister shall preach. Then let the Trustees stand up before the altar and say unto the Officiate.

We present this building to be dedicated to the glory of God and the service of men

Then shall the Minister say:

It shall be called the *(NAME)* Holiness Methodist Church

Then shall the Officiate say to all the people:

Beloved in the Lord, we rejoice that God put It into the hearts of his people to build this house to the glory of his name I now accept this building to be known as *(NAME)* Holiness Methodist Church, to dedicate It, and to set It apart for the worship of Almighty God the service of all men Let us therefore, as we assemble, solemnly dedicate this place to its proper and sacred uses

Then, all standing, the Clergy in Charge shall say, the people responding:

To the glory of God the Father, who has called us by His grace, To the honor of His Son, who loved us and gave Himself for us, To the praise of the Holy Spirit, who illumines and sanctifies us,

We dedicate this house

For the worship of God in prayer and praise,
For the preaching of the everlasting gospel,
For the celebration of the Holy Sacraments,

We dedicate this house

For the comfort of all who mourn,
For the strength to those who are tempted,
For light to those who seek the way,

We dedicate this house

For the hallowing of family life,
For teaching and guiding the young,
For the perfecting of the saints,

We dedicate this house

For the conversion of sinners,
For the promotion of righteousness,
For the extension of the Kingdom of God,
We dedicate this house.

In the unity of the faith,

In the bond of Christian brotherhood,

In charity and good will to all,

We dedicate this house

In love and remembrance of those who have finished their course in gratitude for the labors of all who loved and serve this church, in the hope of a blessed immortality through Jesus Christ our Lord, We dedicate this house

Then shall the people together say:

We now, the people of this church and congregation, compressed about with a great cloud of witnesses, grateful for our heritage, sensible of the sacrifice of our fathers in the faith, confessing that apart from us their work cannot be made perfect, do dedicate ourselves anew to the worship and service of Almighty God, through Jesus Christ our Lord Amen

Then shall the Officiate say:



Accept, O God our Father, this service at our hands, and bless it to the end that this congregation of faithful people may make manifest the Church of the living God, the pillar and ground of truth, and so may this house be the place where thine honor dwelleth and the whole earth be filled with the glory, through Jesus Christ our Lord

The Sanctums (to be sung or said responsively by the Clergy and the people.)

Therefore with angels and archangels, and with all the company of Heaven, we laud and magnify Thy glorious name, evermore praising Thee, and saying

Holy, holy, holy, Lord God of hosts, Heaven and earth are full of Thy glory. Glory be to Thee, O Lord most high. Amen

Prayer (Here the Clergy may offer extemporary prayer)

O eternal God, whom the Heaven of heavens cannot contain, much less the walls of temples made with hands, graciously accept the rededication of this house to thy honor and glory Amen



Service of Blessing/Dedication for a Home

The Clergy shall read:

Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ Romans 1:7B

Beloved, Let us love one another, for love is of God, and every one that loveth is born of God, and knoweth God .1 John 4:7

We dedicate this home

The Officiate shall say:

Dearly beloved, we have gathered here to seek God's blessing upon this home, which by the favor of God and the labor of man, has been so far, completed, and which is a symbol of that loving care which was bestowed upon the world by our Lord Jesus Christ

Let us therefore bring to Him our praise and thanksgiving for His goodness and mercy, and give ourselves anew to His service, our souls, that they may be renewed after the image of Christ, our bodies, that they may be fit temples for the indwelling of the Holy Spirit, our labors and love that they may be according to God's holy will

LET US PRAY:

O, God, who dost govern all things in heaven and earth, and doest make all things new through thine almighty Word Every day we give thanks unto thee, and praise thy name forever and ever Shed forth upon us, we beseech thee, thine everlasting light that we, beholding Thy glory, may be ever devoted to Thee, by whose wisdom we were created, and redeemed through Jesus Christ our Lord Amen

LET ALL PRESENT SAY:

Our Father which art in Heaven, Hallowed be Thy name, Thy kingdom come, Thy Will be done in earth as it is in Heaven. Give us this day our daily bread and forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil For thine is the Kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever Amen

FAMILY READ:

For this reason we give thanks to our Heavenly Father, from whom every family in heaven and on earth is that according to the riches of His glory He may grant to us to be strengthened with might through His Spirit in the inner man, and Christ may dwell in our hearts through faith, that we, being rooted and grounded in love may have power to comprehend with all the saints what is the breadth and length and height and depth, and to know the love of Christ which surpasses knowledge, that we may be filled with all the fullness of God.

Now to Him who is the power at work within us is able to do far more abundantly than all that we ask or think, to Him be glory in the church and in Christ Jesus to all generation, for ever and ever. Ephesians 3:14-21

The Clergy shall say:

In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit, we bless this home committing to God's love and care this house and all who dwell therein.

Let all present say:

Glory be to God most high!

The Clergy shall say:

Unless the Lord builds the house, those who build it labor in vain. Psalms 127:1

The Clergy shall say:

By wisdom a house is built and by understanding it is established. By knowledge the rooms are filled with all precious and pleasant riches. Proverbs 24:3-4

SONG:

PRAYER:



Service of Blessing/Dedication for a Fellowship Hall

CALL TO WORSHIP:

Lift up your heads, O gates!
And be lifted up, O ancient doors!
That the King of glory may come in.
Who is the King of Glory?
The Lord, strong and mighty...
The Lord of host,
He is the King of Glory!

HYMN OF PRAISE "Faith of Our Father"

INVOCATION

SCRIPTURE READING St John 2 1-11, Acts 242

RECOGNITION OF SPECIAL GIFTS

PRESENTATION OF THE FELLOWSHIP HALL

Clergy: Fellow Christians, we are assembled here in the name of our Lord who has blessed the work of our hand in the raising of this building as a house for Fellowship I now recognize the Chairperson of the building committee who will present the building to the congregation

Chairperson: Pastor (*NAME*), on behalf of the building committee, and all who have participated in the erection of this building, I now present the keys as a symbol of this entire structure as we proceed in its dedication to our Lord

Minister/ Clergy: Since it has pleased the Lord to bless His people in the building of the Fellowship Hall for use in His service, let us now dedicate it to the honor of His holy name.

In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit

Congregation: We dedicate this building

Minister/Clergy: To the holy ministry of fellowship and social grace among us

Congregation: We dedicate this building

Minister/Clergy: To the spiritual enrichment of our youth

Congregation: We dedicate this building

Minister/Clergy: To all who enjoy social intercourse in the Spirit of Jesus Christ - as He did with His friends Mary, Martha and Lazarus.

Congregation: We dedicate this building, and we dedicate ourselves anew to that service of our fellow men wherein can best be performed our true service of God, in obedience to the Spirit of the Master when He said "You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, and your neighbor as yourself"

Minister Clergy: Let us, Pray.

Almighty God, our heavenly Father, whose eyes are ever toward the righteous, and whose ears are ever open unto their cry, graciously accept, we pray thee, to Thy service, and to the glory, that in it love and fellowship may unite to make plain our witness of Christ - likeness to those who gather here, and we beseech thee, receive us Thy servants who here dedicate ourselves anew to thee and to those offices of fellowship and good will in which thou are well pleased May we always endeavor to do Thy holy will, through Jesus Christ Our Lord Amen



PROCEDURE FOR ADDING A NEW CHURCH

PART I

Once it has been determined that a new church or mission wishes to become a member of the Lumber River Holiness Methodist Conference, the home mission board in cooperation with the presiding bishop and superintendent should investigate the prospective church as to its wishes. If it is determined by the board and officers to merit the conference consideration, the following procedure should be taken.

PART II

Once a church decides to become a member of the conference as a qualifying "Station Church" it should be made official by a vote of the said church's full membership.

A letter of the church's wishes should be addressed to the conference Presiding Bishop. The letter should state that at least two thirds (2/3) or more of the said church's full membership has voted and favored the desire to join the Lumber River Holiness Methodist Conference. Letter should be signed by the church board.

Once this has been made official, the presiding bishop will process the request by securing the approval of the Conference Bar.

Once acceptance is confirmed, a letter to the church from the presiding bishop and conference secretary will be sent. Said church will then become a Qualifying "Station Church".

Membership Annual Dues will be accessed by conference treasurer after the first Annual Conference following the date of the acceptance.

PART III

If said church has not decided to become a Qualifying "Station Church" after two (2) years affiliation, the Conference Bar will make a decision if to continue affiliation with said church, based on recommendation from Home and Foreign Mission Board in cooperation with Presiding Bishop and Conference Superintendent.

PART IV

If the conference deems it necessary and should the church need funds for land or property improvements, and agreement between said church and conference trustees will be discussed at that time.

A deed of trust or liens and the like should be agreed upon by the conference and said church for the term of a financial loan only.

Necessary Mission Funds will be administered by the Home and Foreign Mission Board.

Ministerial Student Loan Fund

In 1944, the Lumber River Conference set up a Ordination Student Loan Fund Board consisting of three (3) members as follows: A Chairperson, elected by the Conference, a Secretary, the Conference Secretary, and a Treasurer, the Conference Treasurer.

All applications must be filed with said board which shall make necessary investigations to determine the merits of each case, and if facts justify, the Chairperson of said board shall call for a special meeting of the members of the Lumber River Conference to pass on said applications.

Said funds shall be a revolving fund.



DIVISION VIII

REPORT FORMS/LISCENSE

Ballot for Pastoral Voting
For
Christ Holiness Methodist Church

Please check only 1 name

Part-Time *

_____ Joe Goodboy

_____ John Doe

_____ Wesley Alms

_____ Donnie Alright

_____ Joseph Ataway

_____ Adam Anytime

_____ Joshua Goodtime

* This is a recommendation only





Lumber River Conference of the Holiness Methodist Church

1448 Prospect Road * Pembroke, NC 28372 * www.lrchmc.org * 910-521-7544

James H. Woods,
Bishop

Elton Hunt,
Superintendent

Dianne Belcher,
Secretary

Palmer Ray
Bryant,
Treasurer

CLASS LEADERS REPORT

We, _____, the Class Leaders of _____
Holiness Methodist Church presents the following report to the _____ Quarterly
Conference held on _____, 20 _____.

1. Number of Members on Class Roll: _____

2. Number of Members Attending Class Meetings: _____

3. Number Inactive Members due to
Mitigating Circumstances: _____

NAMES

4. Number of Class Meetings Held: _____

5. Average Attendance of Class Meetings: _____

6. Number of Members Habitually

Absent from Church: _____

7. Number of Visits Made: _____

8. Number of Probationers: _____

NAMES

9. Number Contacts made to Habitually Absentees: _____

10. Number of Converts Taught Conference Discipline: _____

11. Miscellaneous Matters:

Respectfully Submitted,

CLASS LEADERS

CLASS LEADERS

Note: Please Attach Additional Sheet If Necessary

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CHURCH SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

I, _____, Superintendent of _____
Holiness Methodist Church presents the following report to the _____ Quarterly
Conference held on _____, 20____.

1. Number of Officers and Teachers _____
2. Number of Sunday School Classes held _____
3. Number of Sunday School Members _____
4. Average Attendance at Sunday School _____
5. Average Number of Officers and Teachers _____
6. Number of Officers and Teachers Meetings Held _____
7. Number of Courses Organized for Officers and Teachers _____
8. Miscellaneous Matters

Respectfully Submitted,

SUPERINTENDENT

Note: Please Attach Additional Sheet If Necessary





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Treasurer

EXHORTER'S QUARTERLY REPORT

To the _____ Quarterly Conference held at _____
Church on _____, 20 _____, I report the following:

1. Number of Exhortations Given: _____
2. Number of Prayer Meetings Attended: _____
3. Number of Class Meetings Attended: _____
4. Number of Sunday Schools Attended: _____
5. Number of Sunday School Sessions Attended: _____
6. Recommendation to Church and Conference:

7. Miscellaneous Matters:

Respectfully Submitted,

EXHORTER





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LOCAL PREACHER'S REPORT

To the ___ Quarterly Conference or the _____TH Annual Conference held at _____ Church, on _____, 20 _____, I report the following:

1. Number of Sermons Given _____
2. Number of Prayer Meetings Attended _____
3. Number of Class Meetings Attended _____
4. Number of Sunday Schools Attended _____
5. Number of Sunday School Sessions Attended _____
6. Recommendation to Church and Conference

7. Miscellaneous Matters

8. Classes or Courses Attended _____

Respectfully Submitted,

LOCAL PREACHER





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ASSISTANT PASTOR'S YEARLY REPORT

I, _____, hereby report my work as Assistant Pastor to the _____ TH Annual Session of the Lumber River Conference of the Holiness Methodist Church held at _____ Holiness Methodist Church on _____, 20_____.

1. Name of Church _____
2. Name of Pastor _____
3. Number of Sermons Preached _____
4. Number of Churches Attended _____
5. Number of Sunday School Sessions Attended _____
6. Recommendation to Conference: _____

7. Miscellaneous Matters

Respectfully Submitted,

ASSISTANT PASTOR





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PASTOR'S QUARTERLY REPORT

I, _____, the Preacher in charge of _____ Holiness Methodist Church present the following Report of the charge to the _____ Quarterly Conference held on _____, 20_____.

1. Number of Sunday Schools: _____
2. Classification of Sunday School _____
(See Discipline)
3. Average Attendance of Worship Service: _____
4. Number of Gatherings for Christian Instructions: _____
5. Admitted from Probation: _____ Date: _____
6. Deceased: _____ Date: _____
7. Withdrawn: _____ Date: _____
8. Excluded: _____ Date: _____
9. Number of Pastoral Visits: _____
10. Money Collected: \$ _____
11. Paid to Pastor: \$ _____
12. Conference Dues Paid: \$ _____
13. Sunday School Expenses: \$ _____
14. Other Expenses: Missions, Love Offerings, Etc.: \$ _____
15. Total Expenses: \$ _____
16. Non-Conference Ministers Preached:

Name: _____	Date: _____
Name: _____	Date: _____
Name: _____	Date: _____

Respectfully Submitted,

PASTOR





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PASTOR'S ANNUAL REPORT

It is with pleasure that I report the Pastor's year's work at _____ Holiness Methodist Church, to the _____ TH Annual Session of the Lumber River Conference held at _____ Holiness Methodist Church on _____, 20 _____.

1. Number of Churches _____
2. Value of Said Churches \$ _____
3. Number of Full Members _____
4. Number of Probationers _____
5. Number of Local Preachers _____
6. Number of Exhorters _____
7. Number of Deaths * _____
8. Number of Baptisms:
 - Adults _____
 - Children _____
9. Number of Sunday Schools _____
10. Number of Officers and Teachers _____
11. Number of Scholars in All Grades _____
12. Monies Collected \$ _____
13. Salary Apportioned to Pastor \$ _____
14. Paid to Pastor \$ _____
15. Conference Budget Assessed \$ _____
16. Conference Budget Paid \$ _____
17. All Other Expenses \$ _____
18. Total Expenses: Pastor Salary, Conference Budget
And All Other Expenses \$ _____

Respectfully Submitted,

PASTOR

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Sunday School Superintendent's Annual Report To Sunday School Supervisor

1. Name of Sunday School Church _____
2. Number enrolled in Sunday School including officers and teachers _____
3. Attendance expressed in average for each quarter and year:

1st Quarter - _____	2nd Quarter - _____
3rd Quarter - _____	4th Quarter - _____
Annual/Yearly _____	
4. Number of times you have been absent from the Sunday School Board Meetings - _____
5. Study Courses offered:
 - a. _____
 - b. _____
 - c. _____
6. Name of people completing study courses (including ones receiving diplomas) – *Please spell name correctly* – Please use additional sheets if needed.

_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____
7. Changes and improvements inaugurated in your Sunday School during the year. (Explain below)

8. Members receiving 20 Year Service Award:

_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____

Respectfully Submitted,

Sunday School Superintendent





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PASTOR'S SPECIAL ASSIGNMENT YEARLY REPORT

It is with pleasure that I, _____, report the Pastor's year's work at _____ Church, to the _____ TH Annual Session of the Lumber River Conference held at _____ Holiness Methodist Church on _____, 20 _____.

- 1. Number of Full Members _____
- 2. Number of Probationers _____
- 3. Number of Local Preachers _____
- 4. Number of Exhorters _____
- 5. Number of Deaths _____
- 6. Number of Baptisms
 - Adults _____
 - Children _____
- 7. Number of Sunday Schools _____
- 8. Number of Officers and Teachers _____
- 9. Number of Scholars in All Grades _____
- 10. Miscellaneous Matters _____

Respectfully Submitted,

PASTOR





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Treasurer

EVANGELIST ANNUAL REPORT

To the _____ TH Annual Conference of the Lumber River Holiness Methodist Conference held at _____ Holiness Methodist Church on _____, 20____, I, _____, report the following:

1. Number of Sermons Given _____

2. Number of Prayer Meetings Attended _____

3. Number of Class Meetings Attended _____

4. Number of Sunday Schools Attended _____

5. Number of Sunday School Sessions Attended _____

6. Recommendation to Conference

7. Miscellaneous Matters

Respectfully Submitted,

EVANGELIST



Form of Trial Procedure

- I 1 Bill of charges
- 2 Specifications
- II 1 Devotions
- 2 Reading of the appointment of the committee to hear the case and the names of such committee
- 3 The appointment of a Secretary
- 4 Reading of the charge and specification by the Secretary
- 5 Answer of the accused In person or by counsel
- 6 Evidence of the prosecution and cross-examination by the defense
- 7 Evidence of the accused and cross-examination by the prosecution
- 8 Rebutting evidence by the prosecution
- 9 Rebutting evidence by the defense
- 10 Instructions of the presiding officer as to the form of the verdict
- 11 The verdict
- 12 The court shall announce the verdict and Impose the penalty fixed by the trial committee
- 13 Dismissal of the meeting

FORM OF LICENSES

Exhorter's Licenses

The bearer hereof, _____ having been duly recommended by the Official Board of _____ Church in Circuit (or Charge), of the Lumber River Conference of the Holiness Methodist Church, and having furnished satisfactory evidence of his qualification for the office of Exhorter, is hereby authorized to exhort, according to the rules and regulations of said Church

Signed, in behalf of said Circuit (or Charge)

Date _____ 20 _____

_____ Pastor

_____ Church Secretary



LOCAL PREACHER'S LICENSES

The bearer hereof, _____ having been duly recommended by the Fourth Quarterly Conference of _____ Circuit (or change), and having been examined as the Discipline directs, of the Lumber River Conference of the Holiness Methodist Church, and having furnished satisfactory evidence of his call and fitness to preach the gospel is hereby authorized to preach the gospel, according to the rules and regulations of said Church

Signed, In behalf of said Circuit (or Charge)

Date _____ 20 _____
_____ Pastor
_____ Conference Supt.

CLERGY ON TRIAL LICENSE

The bearer hereof, _____ having been duly received on trial in the Lumber River Conference of the Holiness Methodist Church has the authority to pastor a church (if so called), to bury the dead, to assist in the giving o communion, the perform weddings and other rituals that are common to a local church (Love Feasts)

Signed, by Order of the Lumber River Conference of the Holiness Methodist Church, This _____ day of _____ 20 _____

Done at _____

_____ Presiding Bishop
SEAL

DEACON'S CREDENTIALS

Know All Men by these presents, that I _____ of the Holiness Methodist Church, under the protection of Almighty God, and with an eye single to His glory, by the imposition of my hands and prayer, have this day set apart

_____ for the office of a Deacon in the said Holiness Methodist Church, a man who in the judgment of the _____ Conference is qualified for that work, and he is recommended to all whom it may concern as a proper person to administer the ordinance of Baptism, Marriage, the Burial of the Dead, and to feed the Flock of Christ, so long as his spirit and practice are such as become the Gospel of Christ, and he continues to hold fast the form of sound words, according to the established doctrines of the gospel

Signed by order of the _____ Conference of the Holiness Methodist Church, this _____ day of _____ 20 _____

Done at _____

_____ Bishop (SEAL)



ELDER'S CREDENTIALS

Know All Men by these presents, that I _____ Bishop of the
Holiness Methodist Church, under the protection of Almighty God, and with an eye single to His glory, have this day through the
imposition of my hands and prayer assisted by the
Elders present set apart _____ for the office of a Elder in the
Holiness Methodist Church, a man who in the judgment of the _____
Conference is qualified for that work, and he is hereby recommended to all whom it may concern as a proper person to administer the
Sacraments and Ordinances and to feed the flock of so long as his spirit and practice are such as become the Gospel of Christ
IN TESTIMONY WHEREOF I have hereunto set my hand this _____ day of
_____ in the year of our Lord two thousand and _____

Done at _____ Bishop (SEAL)

PREACH THE WORD FEED MY SHEEP



BISHOP'S CREDENTIALS

Know All Men by these presents, that I _____ Bishop of the Holiness Methodist Church, under the protection of Almighty God, and with a eye single to His glory, have this day through the imposition of my hands and prayer assisted by the Elders, Bishops present set apart _____ for the office of Bishop in the Holiness

Methodist Church, a man who in the judgment of the _____ Conference is qualified for that work, and he is hereby recommended to all whom it may concern as a proper person to administer the Sacraments, Ordinances and other Ordinances and to feed the flock of Christ, oversee whatever is placed in his charge, so long as his spirit and practice are such as become a shepherd in the Gospel of Christ hold fast sound doctrines established in the Gospel

IN TESTIMONY WHEREOF I have hereunto set my hand this _____ day of _____ in the year of our Lord two thousand and

_____ Done at

_____ Bishop (SEAL)

PREACH THE WORD FEED MY SHEEP

Honorary Member

The Lumber River Conference
of the
Holiness Methodist Church

Honors

With special _____

awards for

Christian Service

In recognition of outstanding contributions to the advancement of Christianity and joint working relationships between Lumber River Holiness Methodist Conference and _____

Date Signed _____ Presiding Bishop

Date Signed _____ Conference Superintendent



DELEGATE'S LETTER

This certifies that _____ and _____ were duly elected and/or confirmed as Delegate and Alternate respectively to represent _____ at the _____ Session of the Lumber River Holiness Methodist Church commencing on the _____ day of _____, 20 _____. They have also been authorized to represent said Church at any other called Conference meetings during his/her term of office

Done at the _____ Quarterly Conference held at _____ Church, on the _____ day of _____, 20_____

This is the named Delegate's _____ year of service and the Alternate's _____ year of service. The term of each shall be two (2) years consecutively

CONFERENCE SUPERINTENDENT

CHURCH SECRETARY

The following Lay Representative(s) were nominated and elected by the Church Full Membership, at a called meeting held _____, 20_____, to represent said church at the Annual Session named above

LAY REPRESENTATIVE(S)

(Name) _____ (Address) _____
(Name) _____ (Address) _____
(Name) _____ (Address) _____

Signature of Delegate in Charge
at the Time of Election

Signature of Present Delegate
(If Not Same, Sign)

Our Lay Representative allowance for the 20_____ year is _____



APPENDIX A

- 1 All church trials must be conducted according to the Word of God and the General rules of the Church Discipline
- 2 Ministers of the Gospel must be set apart by fasting and prayer, and the laying on of hands in the Annual Conference
- 3 All of our Clergy are required to abstain from all filthiness of the flesh, and teach others so to do They must keep themselves pure and live holy lives
- 4 The Annual Conference shall elect a Presiding Bishop for a term of two (2) years by the Secret balloting of its members
- 5 Each Annual Conference shall appoint the place of Its own session, but the Presiding Bishop shall appoint the time for holding the Annual Conference
- 6 Our Love feasts and Class meetings must be held according to the rules and regulations of Conference Discipline
- 7 The first Quarterly Conference of every charge shall hear the report of the Church Budget Committee and approve a budge for the fiscal Conference Year
- 8 The Ordination Qualification Board shall have power to recommend suitable Local Preachers to the Annual Conference to be received on trial and the Validity of Credentials of Ministers seeking admittance to this Conference
- 9 The Pastor in charge shall have the general oversight of the Church
- 10 Forms of reports may be changed as necessity arises by the Presiding Officer and Secretary
- 11 The Annual Conference in regular session shall direct how the Conference funds shall be disbursed
- 12 Two special days during the Conference Year are set apart, 1st The Sunday School Convention (afternoon), 2nd The Annual Conference Sunday
- 13 The term (Full Time Pastor) means that the Pastor of a Station Church will have no other charge
- 14 The Annual Conference shall have full power to make rules and regulations for our Church

