



CHURCH OF GOD

GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE CHURCH OF GOD

The General Assembly is the only forum in which every local congregation and pastor within the Church of God in the United States and Canada has voice. It is a voluntary but important association of Christ-followers committed to biblically grounded Christian life, experience, and witness.

The General Assembly's Constitution and Bylaws define its purposes and constituency. Articles 2 and 3 of the Assembly's Constitution, in part, read:

2.2 The purpose of the Assembly shall be to further the ends of the Church of God: unity and holiness. As a people embracing Jesus as Lord, the Church of God strives to follow Him, as He defined His ministry in Luke 4:16–21, anointed by the Spirit to: proclaim, heal, free, and restore, while conscious of the risks and costs of so doing.

2.3 The purpose of the Assembly shall also be to conduct the general business of the Church and to serve as a forum for the identification, selection, and empowerment of leaders for the Assembly and the ministries and agencies within the Assembly's portfolio.

2.4 The Assembly, in the fulfillment of its purposes and responsibilities, has established a legally incorporated, non-profit corporation formally named Church of God Ministries, Inc. and has chosen a Ministries Council to serve as the Church of God Ministries' Board of Directors; the Council will act on the Assembly's behalf when it is not in session.

3.1 The Assembly is a voluntary association. It shall not exercise ecclesiastical jurisdiction or authority over the Church of God in general or over individual congregations in particular.

3.2 The Assembly does, however, retain the right of a voluntary association to define its own membership and to decide and declare, on occasion, when individual ministers or congregations are not recognized by the Assembly as adhering to the general principles to which the Assembly itself is committed.

3.3 The Assembly's membership shall be comprised of those who are professing Christians, committed to living by the light of biblical revelation, and who also fall into one or more of the following categories:

3.3.1 Ordained Ministers in good and regular standing with their relevant Church of God credentialing authorities.

3.3.2 Licensed Ministers in good and regular standing with their relevant Church of God credentialing authorities.

3.3.3 Governing Board Members of all of the Assembly's Endorsed Agencies.

3.3.4 Officers of the Assembly's Endorsed Agencies who are subject to the Assembly's ratification.

3.3.5 Governing Board Members of all of the Assembly's Affiliated Agencies.

3.3.6 Missionaries who are commissioned by Church of God Ministries.

3.3.7 Members of the Ministries Council.

3.3.8 Members of Assembly Committees defined in this Charter.

3.3.9 Lay members of Church of God congregations designated by their local church as representatives to the Assembly, under the following formula: one for every one hundred people counted in the local congregation's annualized average weekend worship service attendance published in the Church of God Yearbook current on January 1 of each year.

Inquiries and correspondence intended for the General Assembly, its officers, or committees, may be directed to Church of God Ministries. The General Assembly coordinator, in the Church of God Ministries office, networks contacts and information for the General Assembly, its officers, and its standing committees; you may contact the coordinator by surface mail: General Assembly Coordinator, Church of God Ministries, PO Box 2420, Anderson IN 46018-2420, or electronically: GeneralAssembly@chog.org, or by telephone: 800-848-2464. Contact specifically intended for the general director of Church of God Ministries (Jim Lyon), should be delivered to his executive assistant, Elizabeth Miller: Church of God Ministries, PO Box 2420, Anderson IN 46018-2420, EMiller@chog.org, or 800-848-2464.