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# ***KENTUCKY MISSIONS POLICY***

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## **Preamble**

In order to reach the unsaved population of Kentucky with the saving gospel of Jesus Christ, we must endeavor to plant new churches in the spirit of unity. The Kentucky District United Pentecostal Church sets forth the following procedure adopted by the Kentucky District Board and Kentucky Missions Board for planting new churches within the district.

### **I. Methods of Church Planting**

The following are two methods used for church planting:

- A. **New Work (Preaching Point / Daughter Church)** – an outreach opportunity to allow a church or minister to establish a church or a church plant that is ready to have regular services. The Preaching Point / Daughter Work will be known in this policy as a New Work.
- B. **Kentucky Missions Church** – A New Work or new church plant that desires to become North American Missions Status and receive benefits from the United Pentecostal Church International, Kentucky District, and Kentucky Missions. The benefits afforded a Kentucky Missions Church allows the church plant for a period of five years to grow with a support system in place.

### **II. New Work (Preaching Point / Daughter Work)**

- A. When a pastor desires to have a Preaching Point / Daughter Church (New Work), they must make application with the Kentucky Missions Director. The Kentucky Missions Director will forward the application to those required for approval.
- B. The approval process for a New Work in a city that does not currently have a work/church is as follows:  
The Kentucky Missions Director will approve and will gain the approval of the District Superintendent, the Presbyterian of the section where the work is to be established, and the Kentucky Missions Director of said section.

The Kentucky Missions Director will forward the letter and application to those required for approval. If approved, a copy of the approved application will be maintained by the District.

- C. The approval process for a New Work in a city where there is an existing UPCI Church is as follows:  
The requesting pastor will send a New Work Application to the Kentucky Missions Director. The Kentucky Missions Director will approve and forward the completed application to the Sectional Kentucky Missions Director and District Board for approval. The Presbyter will be responsible for communicating to the pastor(s) of the city notifying of the requested New Work. The communication is to be in a written format with a documented verification from the recipient as required by the Kentucky District Manual, Section 2, Paragraph F.
- D. The pastor of the New Work and those designated by him must work in harmony with the Presbyter, Kentucky Missions Director, and Kentucky Missions Director of the section where the New Work is established.
- E. The sponsoring pastor's main designated minister of the New Work must be licensed or in the process of securing a license with the United Pentecostal Church.
- F. Within three years the sponsoring pastor is encouraged to apply for Kentucky Missions Church status. After year three, the pastor must apply for Kentucky Missions Church status, or meet the District Board for continuation of said New Work. The pastor will not have to meet the District Board if deemed unnecessary by the District Superintendent.
- G. In the event there is a change in the sponsoring church's pastor, then sponsoring church board, newly elected pastor, New Work designated pastor should meet with the District Superintendent or his designee within 30 days.

### **III. Kentucky Missions Church**

- A. When a pastor desires to upgrade a New Work or start a Kentucky Missions Church, they must make application with the Kentucky Missions Director. The Kentucky Missions Director will forward the application to those required for approval.
- B. The approval process for a Kentucky Missions Church in a city that does not currently have a work/church is as follows:  
The Kentucky Missions Director will gain the approval for recommendation of the Kentucky Missions Board and forward the application to the District Board for approval. The applicant will be required to meet the District

Board. If approved, a copy of the approved application will be maintained by the District.

- C. The approval process of a Kentucky Missions Church in a city where there is an existing UPCI Church is as follows:  
The requesting pastor will send New Work Application to the Kentucky Missions Director. The Kentucky Missions Director will gain the approval for recommendation of the Kentucky Missions Board and forward the application to the District Board for approval. If the application is an upgrade from a Preaching Point / Daughter Work, the Presbyter will notify the pastor(s) of the city with a courtesy notification. If the application is not an upgrade, the Presbyter will be responsible for communicating to the pastor(s) of the city notifying of the requested New Work. The communication is to be in a written format with a documented verification from the recipient as required by the Kentucky District Manual, Section 2, Paragraph F.
- D. Any licensed pastor who desires approval of location to start a church must be in good standing with the United Pentecostal Church and must make application with the Kentucky Missions Director.
- E. The Kentucky Missions pastor is encouraged to send a quarterly report to the District Superintendent, Kentucky Missions Director, Sectional Presbyter, and Section Kentucky Missions Director.
- F. The Kentucky Missions pastor is encouraged to support all programs of the United Pentecostal Church.
- G. The Kentucky Missions pastor is exempt from his Kentucky District tithes/dues for the first year of his status upon request.
- H. The Kentucky Missions pastor with financial assistance is encouraged to participate in any training either by meeting or media sponsored by the North American Missions Division or Kentucky Missions
- I. The financially sponsored Kentucky Missionary is eligible to receive upon request, free publications from the North American Missions Division. The Kentucky Missionary can contact the Kentucky Missions Director to obtain the list of materials available and order form.
- J. A Kentucky Missions pastor desiring financial assistance must be approved for Kentucky Mission status and the church must be affiliated before receiving any funds from the Kentucky Missions Department. No money can be received or channeled through the Kentucky Missions Department prior to this approval.

- K. To avoid any appearance of an employee-employer relationship, all checks from the Kentucky Missions Department intended to assist the Kentucky Missions church, whether received as designated or otherwise, will be issued to the local assembly. It is used at the discretion of the pastor.
- L. The Kentucky Missions Partners (KMP) program is a system by which individuals or churches sponsor a particular Kentucky Missionary or Kentucky Missions endeavor on a monthly basis. The partnership will continue throughout the duration of Kentucky Mission status or endeavor unless the sponsor cancels it.  
Time will be allotted during the District Conference and the Camp Meeting to promote the KMP program and other programs of the Kentucky Missions Department.
- M. During the five years of Kentucky Missions financial status, a church is eligible for a Christmas For Christ grant from the North American Missions Division. All requests must be made through the Kentucky Missions Director.
- N. A Sheaves for Christ grant is available to the Kentucky Missions church with financial assistance during the five years of status. All requests must be through the Kentucky Missions Director with the approval of the District Youth President.
- O. It is necessary for a lien to be retained by the Kentucky District with a grant or loan given to the Kentucky Missions church. Whereas this lien is a second mortgage, under no circumstances will it be released upon the sale of the property until the lien is paid according to the terms of the indenture.
- P. All Kentucky Missionaries are expected to keep accurate, current and detailed books of church business. The Kentucky Missions Department reserves the right to question and be provided adequate accounting of any money allocated by the Kentucky Missions Department.
- Q. In the event a Kentucky Missions pastor resigns the pastorate or, if for any reason, would no longer be licensed with the United Pentecostal Church during the Kentucky Missions status, then a new pastor is to be found for the Kentucky Missions church. Meanwhile, the church will continue as an established place of worship and affiliated church.  
Therefore, the church will continue to receive the KMP funds designated for it. The District Superintendent will take the normal process in helping the church in the search for a new pastor.

- R. In the event a church closes while under Kentucky Missions status, the District Superintendent, Kentucky Missions Director, and sectional Presbyter should be the first notified by the pastor. When a church closes, the Kentucky Missions Secretary will write all sponsors within ten (10) days of notification of closure, informing them of the closing and requesting that they consider transfer of their support to another Kentucky Missions church. Any designated funds received after a church closes will be returned to the sponsor upon request. If no request is made within sixty (60) days the funds will be used as undesignated funds by the Kentucky Missions Department.

#### **IV. Pre-Approved Cities**

In an effort to promote the need for churches in cities that do not have an UPCI church and at the same time reduce the time that it would take to start a church, the following process will be used:

- A. The Kentucky Missions Board and the Presbyters will work together to establish a list of cities to add to the Pre-Approved List.
- B. A licensed minister/pastor will complete a New Work or Kentucky Missions Church application and submit the application to the Kentucky Missions Director.
- C. The Kentucky Missions Director will approve and will gain the approval of the District Superintendent, the Presbyter of the section where the work is to be established, and the Kentucky Missions Director of said section. If approved, a copy of the approved application will be maintained by the District. The approval process will take no longer in 10 days or less.
- D. If a Kentucky Missions Church application was submitted and approved, the applicant will be required to meet with the District Board at the next scheduled Board meeting.
- E. If the applicant is not currently a pastor, they must first counsel with their pastor and gain approval prior to submitting an application. The pastor must give verbal or written approval to the Presbyter. This would protect from applicants submitting applications without their pastor's knowledge.