

**RESOLUTION**  
**From the Constitution Committee of the Church Of God In Christ**

**Whereas** there has been much conflict over ownership of church property; and,

**Whereas** there is a need for the General Assembly to speak with clarity on the issue of local church proper ownership; and,

**Whereas** the General Assembly is the supreme legislative and authority of the Church Of God In Christ, Inc. It is the only entity which has power to express doctrines and creeds of the church and its decisions shall be binding on all members of the Church Of God In Christ, Inc.;

**Therefore Be It Resolved;**

Article III; Section B; The General Assembly Section D the paragraphs 8 and 9 be amended as follows:

8. All local trustees and officers shall be members of the local Church Of God In Christ, Inc. All corporate directors, officers, and trustees of local churches shall be duly elected by the local church membership. When applicable, said elections shall be in accordance with state law where said property is located.

When the local church is incorporated, the local corporation shall hold title deed to the local property for the exclusive use, benefit, and control of the local congregation (membership). Trustees of local unincorporated churches and their successors in office shall hold title to all real and personal property, for the exclusive benefit, use, and control of the members of the local Church Of God In Christ, Inc. pursuant to section 9 hereinafter. Where however, the law requires no particular mode of election of trustees, they shall be elected by a majority of the members of the congregation, present and voting.

The nomination of officers is a special order of business. All special meetings of the church shall be announced on a Sunday preceding the date of the meeting and shall state the purpose of the call and the time and place of the meeting. Nominations shall be made from the floor and there shall be adequate time given for everyone who wants to make a nomination to do so. A person not present may be nominated by their consent unless the by-laws provide to the contrary. There shall be written notice mailed to each member at least fourteen days before the elections are held. Each successful candidate must receive a majority vote.

9. Real Estate or other property may be acquired by purchase, gift devise, or otherwise by the local churches. All property acquired by the local church (congregation) by devise or gift, shall create to the local church (congregation) the same right of exclusive ownership as purchased property.

The purchasing local church (congregation), as grantee, shall be named on the deed, and shall be the exclusive owner of the local church property. Where the local church is unincorporated, the Board of Trustees of the local church (congregation) shall hold the local church property, for the exclusive benefit, use, and control of the local church (congregation). Where the local church is

incorporated, the corporation shall hold title deed to the local church property for the exclusive use and benefit of the local congregation (membership).

The local church shall have the right to assert its right of ownership of local church property against any and all others. Where real or personal property is acquired by deed, the instrument of conveyance shall contain the following clause.

“The said property is held in trust for the local church, by the Board of Trustees or Board of Directors (of the local incorporated church), for the exclusive benefit, control, possession, and use of the local church (congregation) of the local Church of God in Christ, Inc. with its National Headquarters in the city of Memphis, Shelby County, Tennessee, and subject to the charter, constitution, laws and doctrines of said church, now in full force and effect, or as they maybe hereafter amended, changed or modified by the General Assembly of said church. This trust shall in no way be construed to create an expressed or implied trust for the national Church of God in Christ, Inc. nor shall it be construed to create an expressed or implied trust for any other, than the local church.”