

Article 8: Ministry Organizations

8.1 Purpose

Separately incorporated nonprofit ministry organizations (“Ministry Organization”) may be founded by congregations, Regional Conferences, or the BIC U.S. to further their respective ministry objectives.

8.2 Founding

8.2.1 The founding group, whether from a congregation, Regional Conference, or BIC U.S., should follow a process for forming a Ministry Organization outlined by Leadership Council and shall comply with Section 8.3 of this Article (“Governing Documents”) and all applicable laws in establishing the Ministry Organization.

8.3 Governing Documents

8.3.1 The Articles of Incorporation and Bylaws of a Ministry Organization, including any amendments, shall be subject to the following approval requirements:

8.3.1.1 Ministry Organization founded by a congregation becomes effective upon the documents’ approval by the congregational governing board and by the Board of Directors (BOD) of the Regional Conference in which the congregation is located.

8.3.1.2 Ministry Organization founded by a Regional Conference becomes effective upon the documents’ approval by the Regional Conference BOD and the General Conference Board.

8.3.1.3 Ministry Organization founded by BIC U.S. becomes effective upon the documents’ approval by the Leadership Council and General Conference Board.

8.3.2 The Articles of Incorporation and/or Bylaws of a Ministry Organization should include the following:

8.3.2.1 Use of one of the names of the Organization listed in Article 1.1 for all references to the BIC U.S.

8.3.2.2 A statement that “This organization and all its property including real property are subject to the Manual of Doctrine and Government of the BIC U.S. Should any variance exist, the Manual shall supersede.”

8.3.2.3 A statement that “Upon the dissolution or dissociation of this organization, all net assets remaining after payment of all obligations shall be distributed according to the Manual and BIC U.S. policy and practice then in effect.”

8.3.2.4 For organizations founded by a congregation or Regional Conference, a provision that “The Articles of Incorporation and Bylaws of this organization

may be changed only with the approval of two-thirds of the total membership of the Board of Directors of the Regional Conference of the BIC U.S. in which the organization is located.”

8.3.2.5 For an organization founded by BIC U.S., a provision that “The Articles of Incorporation and Bylaws of this organization may be changed only with the approval of two-thirds of the total membership of General Conference Board (or its successors) of the BIC U.S., a Pennsylvania nonprofit corporation (or its successors).”