



**LOVING ARMS
OUTREACH MINISTRIES
COUNCIL OF CHURCHES**

AFFILIATE MANUAL

We have written this manual intending to convey the purpose, vision and relationship of the LOVING ARMS COUNCIL OF CHURCHES (LACC) and its affiliates that explains, in one place the process, requirements and benefits of the LOVING ARMS COUNCIL OF CHURCHES.

I trust that this manual will help the many who read it to gain a greater understanding of our ultimate desire to help you fulfill your ministry. It is the suggestions and continual input of affiliates who have dedicated themselves to the purposes of God that are truly responsible for this manual.

Finally, I wish to say thank you to all the dedicated affiliates who brought about this manual, because of their active participation with LACC together we have had an impact throughout the world for the Lord Jesus Christ.

Your humble servant,

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The purpose of LOVING ARMS COUNCIL OF CHURCHES (LACC) is to assist ministers and ministries in fulfilling the call of God. We do this through the LOVING ARMS COUNCIL OF CHURCHES (LACC), whereby we carry out our ministry function by a unified desire to fulfill the purposes of God.

But you be watchful in all things, endure afflictions, do the work of an evangelist, fulfill your ministry. It is the intention of the Council of Churches, that all affiliates maintain their autonomy and independence yet maintain a high level of integrity through accountability. That all things be done open and upright in the sight of God and man.

Ordination Acknowledgment

The word ordain means to be chosen and or sanctioned. In terms of the ministry it means that you have specifically been chosen and sanctioned for the specific purpose of God. Ordained does not mean perfected, we are all still subject to the effects of our shortcomings and as such are instructed in Romans 12 to renew our mind that we may prove what is the good acceptable and perfect will of God. As an ordained minister you will have access to resources designed to assist you in fulfilling the call of God on your life. There are some requirements of accountability in very specific areas designed to keep you on track and help you evaluate your ministry along the way.

Affiliation

The word affiliate means to partner, member or associate. God as part of His plan calls us to work together. 1 Corinthians 12 talks about us as members of a larger body. The process of affiliation is, coming together with local bodies of believers and or Churches/Ministries in a common association for His divine purpose. We make no differentiation between a Church (a group of believers called out of this worlds system) and a Ministry (the act of those believers pursuing the purposes of God).

Affiliation is not a granting of spiritual authority or power. It is becoming part of a group with a similar purpose in fulfilling the Great Commission. LACC has the role of assisting each affiliate in fulfilling the call of God in their ministry. There are some requirements as it relates to accountability in very specific areas that serve multiple purposes. These requirements serve a dual role in that they strengthen your ministry and allow the LACC to meet the specific requirements to maintain its qualification as an association of churches preserving its exempt status. The LACC is designed to keep you on track and help you evaluate your ministry along the way.

What Is Apostolic Oversight and Covering?

It will be easier to see what apostolic covering is by first stating what it is **NOT**.

In 1 Thessalonians 2:1 the apostle Paul said; "Our coming to you was not in vain. The word "vain" expresses the hollowness of anything; Paul was saying their work was not void of content or power.

This word could also be translated "empty-handed. Paul was saying; we didn't come to take something away from you but to bring you something. This is the heart of apostolic oversight. It has nothing to do with what the apostle "receives" from the church; it has everything to do with what apostolic oversight brings to the church.

Apostolic oversight:

Is not a means for personal kingdom building. The issue is not quantity - "How many churches do you have in your network?" The issue is the quality of care for the local church and love for the saints.

Is not about money, it is not "a pretext for greed" (1Thess. 2:5). Paul denies that he ever used his ministry as a secret means of enriching himself. Apostolic oversight is not multi-level marketing for church planters where all resources work their way to the top.

Is not about human glory; "I'm Apostle so and so". Paul said; we have never sought honor from men, from you or from anybody else (1Thess. 2:6). Paul here is repudiating personal ambition. Paul never used his preaching to gain the honor, recognition and approval that men give.

Is not micro-managing the church. Paul actually did have authority, but he never abused it. Even though as apostles of Christ we might have asserted our authority (1Thess. 2:6). The only authority that exists in the church is Christ's authority. True apostles are not authoritarian or controlling. Authority is always to be used for the benefit of those under it, never for the personal benefit of those exercising it.

True apostolic oversight has to do with the function of a "Father". Seeing the church as a Father would see his own children.

Operating in the unconditional love, care and support, with the intention of training his children to be men and women of God, who would one day step into the role of fathering.

As we know, caring for children can be tiring work. Paul said; You remember brethren, our labor and toil, laboring day and night (1 Thess. 2:9). True apostles will faithfully proclaim "The Gospel of God" without alteration or substitution, preparing the next generation to do the same.

Apostolic oversight is foundational. Paul said; I have laid a foundation and another builds on it (1 Cor. 3:10). The foundation of a building is out of sight, but it is the key to stability and the growth of the structure built on it. Many churches today have faulty foundations and as a result they continually struggle with the same problems. Jesus Christ himself is the Chief Cornerstone of the foundation (Eph. 2:20). Everything the church is and does have to be rightly related to Christ, because the church belongs to Him.

It is part of New Testament Christianity that churches are to be built up, equipped and matured through ongoing relationship with five-fold ministry. While in the first century this was done primarily through relationship with apostles who initially founded the churches, today many churches are discovering the importance of relating to apostles who may not have pioneered the church, yet provide a rich source of wisdom and strength through ongoing relationship. This is accomplished when a church moves beyond merely having fellowship and receiving ministry from apostles, into the place of identifying, recognizing and receiving oversight from an apostolic ministry. This can only occur where a relationship of trust has been established between a church and an apostolic ministry. Such a relationship takes time to establish.

The Benefits of Apostolic Covering

There is no reason for a church to have an apostolic covering if the church doesn't benefit from the relationship. If the only one receiving benefits is the apostle, something is wrong. Following are some areas that a church and its leaders should benefit from apostolic covering:

Counsel - In vision, helping to define it, refine it and articulate it. In doctrine, to help deal with doctrinal issues confronting a church or causing division in the church. In church discipline, this is especially helpful in difficult cases to avoid personal attacks against leadership when a member needs discipline.

Protection - This is to provide an atmosphere of safety and security for both the pastor and the people. To protect the people; if a leader falls into error or sin or becomes dictatorial, the congregation knows they have someone to appeal to, helping to avoid a church split. To protect the pastor - At times the Pastor needs someone to speak on his behalf. He needs protection against false accusations.

Accountability - Having apostolic covering gives the pastor someone to be accountable to, someone to talk to, relate to and just sound off to.

Confirmation - Apostolic covering can be used to confirm and ordain elders and other 5-fold gifts in the church. Having someone else to interview and confirm candidates for ministry can provide an objective view that is often missing in independent churches.

Encouragement - Visits by apostolic covering can bring encouragement and blessing to a local church.

Commitment - Apostolic covering doesn't work unless there is a level of commitment by a pastor and congregation. Every pastor knows the value and importance of commitment in the local church. A level of commitment is needed if you're going to entrust someone with ministry responsibility in the local church. As an apostolic network we have come to realize that there are some basic commitments a pastor and local church need to make to fully benefit from apostolic oversight:

We provide a Spiritual Covering for Pastors, Churches, and other outreach ministries. Functioning together through Evangelism, Leadership Conferences, Church Planting and Short-term Mission efforts.

We are not a Denomination, but rather a Fellowship. For individuals that want to join the LACC family and meet the requirements, we provide ministerial credentials. Those becoming licensed and ordained with LACC will receive an International Ordination. Those who are called to missionary work will receive an International Missionary Ordination.

If you would like to come under the Spiritual Covering of LACC, partner with us in ministry, or receive an International Ordination... send your request to:

Email: pastor@lovingarmsoutreach.org

Postal Service:
LOVING ARMS COUNCIL OF CHURCHES (LACC)
Bishop Michael L. Hargett, Sr. PhD
2711 Sheridan Road – Unit 208
Zion, Illinois 60099

Where to begin... How can you as a minister, church or ministry, join this type of New Testament Fellowship?

First, set aside a time to meet with the Bishop or attend services that LACC may conduct throughout the year. This will provide opportunity:

- To increase vision
- To build relationships
- To encourage fellowship
- To receive teaching and ministry
- To connect with a global vision
- To be personally strengthened and refreshed

Secondly, participate financially - One of the signs that a church is committed to LACC is regular financial support. As an apostolic ministry we believe that every participating church and ministry should be giving consistently.

Jesus taught that one of the evidences that people were receiving the Word of God was their willingness to support the messengers financially (Matthew 10:5-14). We are cautious as an apostolic ministry regarding the subject of finances. We know there is much confusion and abuse in this area in the body of Christ. We believe the laborer is worthy of his wages (1 Tim 5: 18) and that churches receiving ministry from the apostolic ministry should financially support the ministry.

As a Missions and Outreach Ministry that is committed to reaching the nations, there are many things that need to be done that will require financial support.

- To develop materials that are translated into different languages to minister to the nations.

- To develop materials that can be used by LACC churches for the discipline and training of people in the local church.

- To provide for administrative expenses including; office expenses, printing costs, mailing costs, web site maintenance, and hosting the national conference.

Our desire as a Missions and Outreach Ministry is to be a resource center that will be able to provide support for local churches both here and abroad. Overseas Churches desperately need our support. All of this requires finances.

Practical Steps for Entering LACC

- Begin to build a relationship with members of the LACC ministry.
- Talk to your leaders and the church about having apostolic oversight.
- Have someone from LACC come and teach on apostolic oversight.
- Pray and ask God for insight concerning being under Apostolic covering.
- Fill out, and submit an application.

General Code of Ethics

- It is a requirement that every member of LACC accept and adhere to the following ministerial ethics:
- Each member has a right to their own style and personality as they follow Christ.
- To conduct ones affairs in: morals, finances, and business relations with a high degree of Christian integrity.
- To maintain a teachable spirit towards the other leaders of the Fellowship.
- To speak in a respectful and edifying manner where other members of the Fellowship are concerned.
- To abstain, directly or indirectly, in any issue that would cause a church split.
- To not sow seeds of discord among the body by gossip, rumors and opinionated criticism.
- To abstain from the consumption or use of alcohol, tobacco and illegal drugs.
- To pursue a Christian relationship with other members of the Fellowship.

- To respect the rights of others and allow them to be different, as long as their actions comply with the written Word of God.
- To support and give your loyalty to any pastor under which you may serve.
- To deal justly as the Scriptures command concerning all areas of fellowship, relationships, unity and brotherly love.
- To follow the procedure as commanded in the Scriptures when faced with a brother or sister who is in violation of these ethics or any other Biblical moral standard.
- To agree to adhere to our statement of faith and ministerial Ethics of **LOVING ARMS COUNCIL OF CHURCHES**

What We Are

LOVING ARMS COUNCIL OF CHURCHES (LACC) is an apostolic network of churches, ministries and like-minded leaders. It is designed to provide supportive strength to existing churches, plant churches, ministries, and leaders through relationship, mentorship, fellowship, networking, counsel, and support. Additionally, it is an alliance that centers on relational accountability, provides apostolic covering, and challenges the covenant churches, ministries, and leaders to discover their purpose, birth their God given vision, and fulfill their destiny.

Who We Are

LACC is led by Overseer, Bishop Michael L. Hargett, Sr. PhD in Zion, IL. God has called, commissioned, and anointed him to plant, multiply, lead, and oversee an apostolic network of churches through LOVING ARMS COUNCIL OF CHURCHES.

We firmly believe that we all should be faithful, accountable, and teachable. Therefore, LACC has in place an accountable group of Christian leaders, who make up the **Advisory Ministry Council**.

The Purpose of LOVING ARMS OUTREACH MINISTRIES (LACC) is designed for three main purposes which includes the following:

CARING

- To give insight as well as oversight to the covenant churches, ministries, and leaders
- To provide a sense of identification
- To exemplify the love of Jesus Christ
- To assist one another in fulfilling the mandate of the Great Commission

COVERING

- To provide the covenant churches, ministries, and leaders protection through a commitment to accountability
- To help develop their ministry skills
- To impart knowledge of biblical principles
- To provide an outlet for counsel, comfort, and confidence

CONNECTING

- To build and develop covenant relationships with like-minded ministers and ministries
- To share helpful tips and ideas that will help to enhance their ministry
- To promote awareness of the most recent trends through dialogue and networking
- To provide an opportunity for ministers and ministries to pray for one another

The Benefits of LACC Affiliates

1. Apostolic covering
2. Accountability
3. Annual conference and convocation
4. Activation/impartation
5. Assistance with church planting
6. A link on our website and website support
7. Spiritual support and prayer
8. Ministerial fellowship
9. Sharing of information
10. Sharing of resources

Financial Support

It's never the plan of LACC to make financial support compulsory but financial support through giving is a natural part of apostolic ministry and is a biblical principle. Those who are spiritually mature and faithful in obedience will understand and maintain all requirements of membership including the area of finances. Financial support is divided as follows:

- No Application Fee
- Quarterly Fee: \$1.00 per member up to 1,000 members (1,000 member cap)
- Annual Holy Convocation and Conference

We take this opportunity to thank you for your interest in LACC and we look forward to working together in helping to build the kingdom of God. Together, we will extract from one another's deposits and we here at LACC value the opportunity you've given us through this covenant relationship. Do know that we are here to be of assistance to you and your ministry through caring, connecting, and spiritual covering.

Get more information!

To obtain a packet of information on LACC or to become a part of this cutting edge ELECTRIFYING AND OFF THE CHAIN! Call 847-975-6106 or visit our website: www.lovingarmsoutrach.org

MINISTER EXPECTATIONS AND ACCOUNTABILITY

Properly functioning leadership will keep in mind two important things: expectations and accountability. A clearly defined set of expectations along with a system of accountability for meeting those makes for a healthy relationship between the Chief Apostle, the Jurisdictional Bishops and District Ministries. The following is a list of things that I expect of those in our fellowship which I will hold all presbyteries accountable.

1. It is my expectation that when official district meetings and/or functions are scheduled that you and lay members to be on time and in place no later than 15 minutes before the start of your ministry responsibility. If in the event you are providentially hindered from being in place on time, I expect the courtesy of notification made to your Pastor, Jurisdictional Bishop or District Elder as early as possible in advance so a substitute can be obtained with time to prepare adequately.

2. It is my expectation that you to take **full responsibility** for your personal area of ministry i.e. if you take it out, you put it back; if you dirty it, you clean it; if you break it, you fix it or replace it; if you turn it on, you turn it off; if you borrow it, you return it; if you empty it, you fill it etc. If in the event someone has not done so, and it falls to you to do it, I expect it to be done by you in a Christ-like manner with a servant's heart, knowing from Whom your reward will one day come.

3. It is my expectation that all matters of disagreement with leadership be dealt with using the pattern of **Matthew 18:15-17** and in the spirit Galatians 6:1. All differences are to be resolved by utilizing Biblical principles--always presenting a united front. Appropriate confidentiality will be observed in regard to pupil/parent and school and member/church matters. (**Titus 3:2 and Galatians 5:15**)

4. It is my expectation that as a district we financially support the overall governing organization. (\$1.00 per member per quarter)

5. It is my expectation that each fellowship church submit a monthly report to the district office no later than the 21th of every month.

6. It is my expectation that all ministry positions will have a written description of that position. While I welcome input from district team members regarding possible district staff, it is my expectation that all ministry staff must be approved by the board of Bishops. It is not appropriate for a district team member to recruit and place a person in a district position without the approval of the Presiding Prelate and Jurisdictional Bishop.

7. It is my expectation that all materials, methods, curriculums will conform to the Doctrinal position of the governing organization and be in line with our philosophy of your ministry. All teaching materials that have been purchased by the district with the Jurisdictional Bishop's approval for use in the teaching ministry is expected to be used and their curriculum guides followed as appropriate and that they do not conflict with the governing organization. Training materials may be picked up from the District Office no later than one week before scheduled course and/or class.

8. It is my expectation that a spirit of cooperation to exist between all members of the district, keeping mind that we're all working towards the same goal. Saving the lost and building the kingdom!

9. It is my expectation that you view your inclusion in the district and as a part of the OAIM ministry team as a fulfillment of God's call upon your life and that you feel there is no greater privilege than to be a part of this district, evidenced by your punctuality, work ethic, enthusiasm, and submission to God ordained authority.

10. It is my expectation that you see your ministry responsibility in this fellowship as the primary reason God did not take you home to heaven the moment you accepted Christ a personal Savior.

11. It is my expectation that you fulfill your district and ministry responsibility in the amount of time it takes to fulfill it, no more and no less. By that I mean, that while a schedule is important, by the same token you're not a clock-watcher, displaying impatience when the scheduled time for departure is past.

12. It is my expectation that you will become a part of the soul winning efforts of this ministry.

13. It is my expectation that the question will not be —Will I win souls?|| but —When shall I win them?|| Who is the one I being sent to lead?

14. It is my expectation that people will not be viewed as an interruption or obstacle on your way to ministry, but that they will be viewed as the primary reason for ministry.

15. It is my expectation that before questions of financial consideration, time constraints and feasibility are asked, that we first ask the question —What is the eternal value to God's Kingdom?||

16. It is my expectation that you follow the directions given you by the district leadership over you, without complaint, giving your full support both in word and in action.

17. It is my expectation that you would expect the Presiding Prelate's oversight of your God-given responsibilities to be fair, just, spirit-filled and servant minded. Not arbitrary or contentious, always keeping in mind the One whom we serve together in a spirit of humility and gratitude.

You will often hear me say that every church needs FAT leaders. God's Kingdom on Earth needs leaders which are Faithful, Accountable, and Trainable. Each of us is on a journey to understand, pursue and take our next steps of faith with God on the gifts of the fivefold ministry. . As leaders, this journey includes a commitment to becoming more Christ-like in each of the following areas:

1. A Commitment to a growing relationship with Jesus Christ: This is evident in the following ways:

- a. **A Commitment to the Lordship of Christ:** God's offer of salvation through Jesus Christ calls for a response of faith. That response is demonstrated throughout the New Testament by repentance, acceptance of Jesus Christ as Lord and Savior, and baptism by immersion. Repentance involves a change of heart and mind that causes us to want to make Jesus the absolute Leader of our lives. When we commit our lives to Christ, we put our faith in Him to receive forgiveness of sins, eternal life and the gift of the Holy Spirit. Baptism is the public demonstration by which a believer is identified with Christ, His body the church, and a life of discipleship. The act is one done in faith and submission to the Lordship of Christ. (Mark 1:9-11, Acts 2:38, Romans 6, Colossians 2:12)
- b. **Development of Prayer and Other Spiritual Disciplines:** In order to grow in a relationship with Jesus Christ, a leader will begin to incorporate specific disciplines into his/her life. No relationship can grow without communication. As much as we need to communicate with our heavenly Father, He desires to communicate with us. In fact, he created us to fellowship with Him. The growing spiritual life of the leader will include disciplines such as regular prayer, Bible reading, fasting, and meditation on the Word. (James 5:13-16, 1 Thessalonians 5:16-18).
- c. **A Commitment to Finances/Stewardship** As our creator, God has given us certain laws of love—gracious, caring guidelines to live by. When we follow those principles, we find deeper joy and greater fulfillment. Some of those guidelines relate to the money he has entrusted to our care, financial resources he urges us to generously share with others. Tithing is an obligation. Giving is from the heart. We cannot live and not give. From this I have accepted the theology of Free Will Giving. A New Testament Biblical giving principal based on four general types of giving:
 1. **Cheerful tithe:** This follows the paths outlined in the Old Testament Covenant (OTC) to instruct them in their giving while cheerfully and willingly submitting themselves to that authority.
 2. **Cheerful Spirit-led-giving:** This follows the paths outlined in the New Testament Covenant (NTC) to instruct them in their giving and cheerfully and willingly submit them to that authority.
 3. **Un-cheerful tithe:** This believes tithing is right, but generally either struggle to or don't give in accordance to the paths of giving outlined in the OTC.
 4. **Un-cheerful Spirit-led-giving:** This believes free-will is right, but generally either struggle to or don't give in accordance to the paths of giving outlined in the New Testament Covenant.

- d. **Speech:** As a leader, what we say has great influence. It is expected that a leader will be a model to those who follow him/her in his/her speech. The Bible speaks of our tongue as having tremendous power – both for good and evil (James 3). A leader is expected to guard his/her speech carefully, being positive and encouraging, building up the body – always —speaking the truth in love||. (Ephesians 4:15).
- e. **Home/Family Life:** The first ministry responsibility for every leader is his/her family. {Church Name} is committed to building strong families. A leader will model an authentic commitment to his/her family, an example that is consistent both in the home and in the church. (Ephesians 5 & 6).

2. **Commitment to Increasing Knowledge** of Jesus Christ through Prayer, personal study of the Bible and Application to Every Day Life: This is evident in the following ways:

- a. **A Working Knowledge of Spiritual Principles in the Bible:** One of the best ways to grow in our knowledge of Jesus is through a better understanding of the principles found in Scripture. A leader will continually seek to increase his understanding of Scripture. (II Timothy 2:15).
- b. **Possess Ability to Effectively Communicate the Faith:** A leader will have many opportunities to communicate the meaning and significance of a relationship with Jesus Christ. This will encourage the believer and challenge the unbeliever. It is important that a leader is able to clearly and concisely communicate a Gospel message within the context of your own personal testimony. This will be a valuable tool for personal evangelism. (Matthew 28:18-20).
- c. **Submission to the Word of God:** A leader will seek to apply the principles learned from God’s Word in his/her personal life. In addition, he/she should be capable of encouraging and exhorting to do the same.
- d. **Sacrifice (Philippians 1:3):** The knowledge of Jesus prepares us to suffer. According to Paul, knowledge of Jesus means being well acquainted with His suffering and sacrifice.

3. **Commitment to the Body of Christ** at LAOM/LACC: This is evident in the following ways:

- a. **Consistent Participation in Small Groups, and Celebration Services:** One of the best ways to continue to develop and grow in your relationship with Jesus Christ is to continue in fellowship with other believers. (Hebrews 10:25). This is not only beneficial to the personal spiritual life of the leader, but it is also an encouragement to other believers. LOVING ARMS OUTREACH MINISTRIES offers several opportunities to regularly participate in fellowship with other believers. A leader will be a model as he/she communicates the importance of these activities by his/her own consistent participation in them.
- b. **Consistent Participation in Leadership Training:** A characteristic of a growing Christian is to be teachable. This is no different for the leader. A leader will model a teachable spirit through consistent participation in leadership training. {Church Name} is dedicated to providing excellent leadership training opportunities. Similar to participation in celebration services, small groups, and believers' worship, participation in leadership training opportunities is not only beneficial to the leader himself/herself, but also an encouragement to the body of leaders.
- c. **Development of an Apprentice Leader:** The apostle Paul modeled for us the importance of apprentice leadership (II Timothy 2:2). One of the most effective ways to reproduce and maximize your ministry impact is to be committed to doing ministry in pairs, a leader developing an apprentice leader. In order for the body of Christ to continue to make a difference, each leader must take upon himself/herself the responsibility of leadership development. An excellent way to do this is through apprenticeships.
- d. **Facilitate Care and Spiritual Growth of Individuals under Care:** As a leader, you have accepted the responsibility to facilitate the care and spiritual growth of the individuals to whom you are ministering. (1 Peter 5:1-4). It is not your sole responsibility to care for these individuals. It is the leader's responsibility to see that the individuals in the group provide care for one another.

- e. **Efforts/Actions (Using giftedness):** God gives every Christian gifts and abilities to be used to benefit His body, the church. A leader will seek to discover how God has gifted the minister to be most effective in ministry. In turn, the leader will encourage other Christians to seek out to discover their own gifts and abilities and use them in ministry to benefit the body of Christ. (1 Corinthians 12, Romans 12, Ephesians 4).

4. **Commitment to Increasing Competency as a Leader:** This is evident in the following ways:

- a. **Commitment** to LACC's Vision and Values: Leaders are enthusiastically committed to LACC's vision and values and they try to live them out in practical ways. Leaders continually strive to align their ministry area with the vision and values of LACC. Within their ministry area, leaders strive to consistently and effectively communicate our vision and values in a compelling manner that inspires others to become more actively involved.
- b. **Attitude:** Leaders have a positive, can-do attitude and enthusiasm that attracts and inspires others. People are naturally drawn to a leader's servant's heart and Christ-like character such as humility, patience, and self-discipline. Leaders have a —whatever it takes|| attitude and are willing to sacrifice self for the good of the church body. They are able to laugh at themselves and admit their mistakes to others; Leaders are more critical of themselves than others are.
- c. **Integrity:** Leaders are committed to being trustworthy, honest, reliable, and willing to stand-up for what they believe is right, regardless of the consequences. They value and persistently seek truth in all matters. They give every assignment their best effort without cutting corners as they seek to honor God and honor others through excellence.
- d. **Priority Setting/Time Management:** Leaders use their time effectively and efficiently, concentrating their efforts on the more important priorities that will have a lasting impact on the church. Specifically, leaders spend considerable time on activities related to coaching, mentoring, and developing other potential leaders and on activities that will have a long-term, lasting benefit for the church.
- e. **Action Oriented** – Leaders develop a strong drive to create a better tomorrow. They find creative and innovative ways to work through or around barriers. Leaders do not let things fester. They learn to strike the right balance between planning and action. Others are energized and motivated by their can-do attitude.

- f. **Team Player** – Leaders have a deep commitment to the team or group they lead, and to helping their team members to understand, pursue, and take their next steps with God. Leaders are willing to sacrifice self for the good of their team. They are good at collaborating with and promoting the creative ideas of others, resulting in a product that is consistently bigger and better than them. Leaders can quickly find common ground and solve problems for the good of all.

- g. **Demanding Standards/Expectations** – Leaders demand and are passionate about high standards of excellence in their ministry areas and are not living with festering deficiencies. They communicate these standards to others in all that they do and inspire others to high levels of performance. Leaders pay close attention to details and are more demanding of their ministry area than others are.

- h. **Teachable** – Leaders are relentless learners. They are aware of their personal strengths, weaknesses, and limits. Leaders continuously work to improve themselves. They are open to change without being defensive. They seek out and thrive on constructive feedback.

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NOTE: The information contained in this manual is subject to change without notice by LACC and is binding upon all LACC affiliates

TERMS

Affiliate – an individual or organization that is part of the LACC

Affiliation – the act of becoming an affiliate

Association – a group with a relationship, having a common purpose or interest

Church – congregation of believers

LACC – LOVING ARMS OUTREACH MINISTRIES COUNCIL OF CHURCHES

Congregation – a group of believers together for the purpose of worshiping God (church)

Covering – accountability relationship to provide protection through a multitude of counselors

Designated Offering – an offering intended for a specific use (to build a building)

House Church – a congregation meeting in a home or small group with or without a pastor

I Believe – Is an outreach of Help Ministries Incorporated dedicated to sharing the Gospel of Jesus Christ.

Ministry – can be a church or non congregational organization

Offering – a gift given to God

Ordained Minister – an individual called, chosen and purposed by God for a divine purpose

Partner Ministries – a ministry that has offered its services in support of the LACC vision

Tithe – one tenth; the percentage of a believer's income (increase) paid to God; the tithe is first part of the believer's income

Treasury Regulations – The rules used by the IRS in determining tax exemption

PURPOSE

The purpose of the LOVING ARMS COUNCIL OF CHURCHES is to assist ministers and ministries in fulfilling the call of God in their life. We do this through the LOVING ARMS COUNCIL OF CHURCHES(LACC), whereby we carry out our Church function by a unified desire to fulfill the purposes of God.

This would include, but not limited to:

Providing an accountability relationship and covering with like-minded pastors, ministries and local congregations who operate autonomously.

- A. Providing a spiritual covering for ministers (a Paul & Timothy relationship).
- B. Provide an Apostolic leadership relationship to ministries and independent and local congregations.
- C. Cooperatively establishing local works (house churches, ministries and congregations).
- D. Providing the needed tools to strengthen LACC ministry leaders.
- E. Providing a network of ministry leaders who can provide a spiritual pool of resources for affiliates
- F. Cooperatively participating in missions program to reach the world for Jesus Christ.

LACC GUIDANCE

A. Head Overseer (APOSTLE) – The term is perpetual The Head Overseer shall appoint all other overseers in solemn prayerful consideration along with the other Overseers. The Head Overseer shall serve and fill all vacant positions in the ministry until such time as they can be otherwise filled.

B. Overseer – (**BISHOP**) The term is 3 years. There are four Overseer positions in addition to the Head Overseer. An Overseer may hold an unlimited number of consecutive terms.

C. Advisor – (**DISTRICT ELDERS/PASTORS**) The term is at the will of the Head Overseer. There may be up to five Advisors. One of the Advisors will be an Overseer who will act as Chair of the Advisor Committee.

D. Secretary General

Treasury Secretary – Term shall be until revoked by the Head Overseer. The Secretary of Ministry will have the responsibility of binding together, publishing and making changes to all Articles of Corporation Sole, Bylaws, Policies, Procedures and operational instructions. (ii) The Secretary of Treasury will have the oversight of the finances and financial reports of LACC and any affiliates, outreaches or other ministries that affiliate with LACC.

E. General Council The General Council is comprised of all LACC ordained ministers. Their purpose is to provide input and recommendations to the Overseers.

MEETINGS

A. Overseers The Overseers hold regularly scheduled meetings twice a year and other meetings as necessary for the governing of LACC. The meetings are scheduled to be held the second Friday in the months of April and October.

B. Advisors The Advisors hold regularly scheduled meetings twice a year and other meetings as necessary for the governing of LACC. The meetings are scheduled to be held the second Friday in the months of March and September.

C. General Council There are no formally scheduled meetings of the General Council. The General Council will meet at all ministry conferences. Note: The term of participation in the General Council is permanent unless disqualified by:

- 1 Removal by the Overseers
- 2 Withdrawal from the LACC
- 3 Scriptural basis
- 4 Failure to financially support the ministry
- 5 Lack of participation

CHANGES

The terms of participation in the LACC may be changed from time to time by the Overseers without notice. The Documents of Affiliation may be amended from time to time by the Overseers to maintain compliance with Treasury Regulations and to ensure the continued and efficient operation of LACC. Changes to the operation, policies, procedures, Bylaws and or administration of the LACC and are binding upon all LACC affiliates. Any objections or suggestions regarding the administration of the LACC should be communicated by email to LACC care of the Overseers.

PROPERTY

LACC is primarily supported by the contributions of its LACC affiliates. All real property owned by LACC will be held in its name. LACC affiliates are autonomous and therefore all property owned by the affiliate will be held in the affiliates separate name, unless the Overseers expressly agree to take position of specific real property at the request of a LACC affiliate.

CALLING

Only God can call and ordain ministers and ministries for His service. LACC relies on the leading of The Holy Spirit, when considering the acknowledging an individual, Church or Ministry as being ordained by God. Selection shall be conducted in accordance with ministry guidelines, by recognizing the divine call of God. LACC is not responsible for the actions or undertaking of any individuals who may hold, or who may have previously held ministerial credentials with LACC or its affiliate churches/ministries. LACC is willing to become involved in the restoration of pastors to a Christian lifestyle as dictated by the Bible, when requested. Such a request must be made by the individual and be accompanied by a sincere heart and attitude of repentance.

LACC RELATIONSHIP

ORDINATION: LACC offers ministers the ability to be part of the LACC, receive affiliate minister support services, remain autonomous and be acknowledged as an ordained minister. Acknowledgment services are available for those called by God to the ministry. Ministers desiring to be affiliated with LACC must complete a LACC application. If the applicant is the senior minister of a Church (local congregation) or Ministry they must complete the Church/Ministry Affiliation portions of the application as well as the portions related to ordination acknowledgement.

LACC is called to provide pastoral leadership and the tools ministers need to fulfill the call of God in their life. We are able to do this through unity of purpose, vision and doctrine. Amos 3:3 “Can two walk together unless they are agreed?”

- A. God is creator of all
- B. There is one God (The Father Son Holy Spirit) “Trinity”
- C. The Bible is infallible (never wrong)
- D. Jesus came as man, born a virgin birth
- E. Jesus Christ is true God and true man.
- F. Salvation for all, by no other name but Jesus
- G. We have been commissioned to the ministry of Christ

All ordained ministers are encouraged take advantage of the opportunity to fellowship with other LACC affiliated ministers (1 Theses 5:12). Through these ministry relationships we are able to be more useful in fulfilling our shared vision and reaching the world for Jesus Christ. LACC has appointed Directors that are available to provide counsel and communication to affiliates. Affiliate ministers always have the ability to contact LACC directly to help settle ministry disputes. Each minister is encouraged to contact LACC if they need further ministry assistance.

NOTE: A senior minister of a Church/Ministry who applies for ordination acknowledgement is also applying on behalf of the Church/Ministry for affiliation. If after receiving ordination acknowledgement the ordained minister becomes the senior minister of a Church/Ministry work they shall complete a Church/Ministry application to affiliate the Church/Ministry with the LACC.

CHURCH / MINISTRY AFFILIATION: LACC offers Church/Ministries the ability to be part of the LOVING ARMS COUNCIL OF CHURCHES (LACC) receive affiliate ministry support services, remain autonomous and be acknowledged as part of the LACC. Affiliation services are available for those ministries called by God to a specific undertaking. Church/Ministries desiring to be affiliated with LACC must complete a LACC application. If the applicant is the senior minister and wishes to seek acknowledgement as an ordained minister they must complete the ordination acknowledgment portions of the application as well as the portions related to Church/Ministry Affiliation. (It is highly recommended that a Church/Ministry considering affiliation have their senior minister apply for ordination acknowledgement.) LACC is called to provide leadership and the tools ministries need to fulfill the call of God. We are able to do this through unity of purpose, vision and doctrine. Amos 3:3 “Can two walk together unless they are agreed?”

- A. God is creator of all
- B. There is one God (The Father Son Holy Spirit) “Trinity”
- C. The Bible is infallible (never wrong)
- D. Jesus came as man, born a virgin birth
- E. Jesus Christ is true God and true man
- F. Salvation for all, by no other name but Jesus
- G. We have been commissioned to the ministry of Christ

Churches/Ministries affiliated with LACC benefits from being part of an association that is reaching around the world. Affiliates always have the ability to contact LACC directly to help settle ministry disputes. Each ministry is encouraged to contact LACC if they need further ministry assistance.

HOUSE CHURCH: LACC offers Christians who desire to be part of fulfilling the Great Commission, the opportunity to participate by hosting an I Believe House Church (“HC”). LACC provides resources designed to help leaders form and operate a HC. The simple tools are provided at a reasonable cost to the HC leader. For those wishing to have a complete step by step set of lessons for leading a HC, LACC has the resources available to assist you. Though the HC is part of the LACC they do not have all the benefits of ordained ministers or Church/Ministries, they still have access to LACC by email for assistance in making their HC successful. To become a HC the leader must complete the LACC application and complete the portions required for a HC (the least amount of information is collected from the HC applicants of any of the applicants). If a HC leader desires to formally be considered a Church/ Ministry or acknowledged as ordained they need to complete the LACC application and the portions related to those acknowledgements.

LACC is called to provide leadership and the tools ministries need to fulfill the call of God. We are able to do this through unity of purpose, vision and doctrine. Amos 3:3 “Can two walk together unless they are agreed?”

- A. God is creator of all
- B. There is one God (The Father Son Holy Spirit) “Trinity”
- C. The Bible is infallible (never wrong)
- D. Jesus came as man, born a virgin birth
- E. Jesus Christ is true God and true man
- F. Salvation for all, by no other name but Jesus
- G. We have been commissioned to the ministry of Christ Leading a HC with the support of LACC, you benefit from being part of an association that is reaching around the world. Affiliates always have the ability to contact LACC directly to help settle ministry disputes. Each ministry is encouraged to contact LACC if they need further ministry assistance.

BECOMING PART OF THE LACC

- A. Complete an online application or request a printed application from LACC by e-mail or by postal mail. The applicant, be it a senior minister seeking ordination acknowledgement or Church/Ministry seeking affiliation, will complete the application and submit it for consideration.
- B. After initial review, the applicant will be sent an email notice, along with a request for any additional information that is needed to proceed. If your application is assigned to a LACC Director, the applicant will be informed in the body of the email.
- C. After LACC receives all the requested information back it will conduct the final review of the applicant.
- D. The applicant will be contacted and made aware of the preliminary decision regarding the approval of the application. If the decision is positive the applicant will be required to submit the processing fee to offset mailing cost and supplies.
- E. The applicant will receive a final notice of approval or denial. If there are issues that cannot be resolved the application is forwarded to the application oversight committee or Overseers. If application is denied, an email that identifies the reasons for denial is sent to the applicant. NOTE: All I Believe House Church applications will be approved if the applicant agrees to the terms.

COVENANT RELATIONSHIP

Upon approval of the LACC application the minister, Church/Ministry or House Church will be required to sign an agreement that sets out some of the core responsibilities of a LACC affiliate and is considered a covenant promise between the affiliate and the LACC.

B. At the heart of our relationship is the communication of LACC affiliates through the required reports. Treasury Regulations require LACC receive regular reports from affiliates to preserve the designation as an Association of Churches.

C. As required by Treasury Regulations, all Church/Ministry affiliates will be required to adopt, as part of their ministry articles or bylaws the following documents:

- 1 Article of Affiliation
- 2 Article of Dissolution
- 3 Article of Dispute
- 4 Article of Statement of Faith
- 5 Resolution of Affiliation

D. Approval of an application does not grant any right or in any way constitute an employment relationship. All rights and responsibilities of LACC affiliates are limited to those set forth in the ordination or affiliation agreement. The participation in the LACC is “at will” and may be terminated for any reason by LACC.

REQUIREMENTS

The requirements of being part of the LACC need to be considered by each prospective affiliate prior to making application. Affiliate adherence to the LACC requirements after acceptance ensures that the purposes of the LACC will be a success. ALL LACC AFFILIATES

- A. Complete a LACC application
- B. Maintain beliefs akin to LACC
- C. Support the mission and vision of LACC
- D. Report change of address and email within 30 days
- E. Comply with other such requirements as may be adopted by LACC

ORDAINED MINISTER

- A. Financially support LACC Each ordained minister shall contribute a tenth of their tithe to LACC (1% of their total income) each month. The remaining portion of the minister’s tithe is to be contributed to their Church/Ministry.
- B. Submit reports Ordained ministers will submit a report twice a year, on January 31 and July 31 of each year, unless they produce a regular newsletter that contains substantially similar information as would be contained in the ministers report..
- C. Attend a ministry event annually Ordained ministers must participate in a ministry event once every year. It can be a conference by web, phone or in person.
- D. Singularity LACC believes that God is the only one who can ordain and LACC provides acknowledgement of that experience. In return, ordained ministers commit to not holding ordination from another organization while holding credentials with LACC.
- E. Fulfill Other Commitments Ordained ministers commit to fulfilling the requirements set forth in the ordination agreement.

CHURCH/MINISTRY

Financially support LACC

- A. Each Church shall contribute \$1.00 per member to LACC up to 1% of the churches total tithe each quarter (every three months). This does not include designated offerings.
- B. Each non-congregation ministry shall contribute \$1.00 per member to LACC up to 1% of the churches total tithe each quarter (every three months). This does not include designated offerings.
- C. Maintain approved charter Each Church/Ministry is an autonomous organization and must comply with state and local laws respecting the formation as a congregation/ministry.
- D. Adopt governing affiliation documents Each Church/Ministry shall adopt governing documents to formally affiliate with LACC.
- E. Singularity Each Church/Ministry agrees to not formally affiliate with another organization while an affiliate of LACC. This in no way restricts an affiliates ability to work with any other Christian organization or congregation in the pursuit of fulfilling the great commission.
- F. Submit reports
 - a. Each Church/Ministry must submit a report each quarter unless they produce a regular newsletter that contains substantially similar information as would be contained in the quarterly report. The reports form can be located on the affiliate only website.
 - b. Each Church/Ministry must submit a financial report annually on or before April 30 for the year ending December 31 the previous year.
- G. Support world missions

Each Church/Ministry commits to support world missions twice a year. It is the intention of LACC that congregations take up a special offering designated for LACC missions. However a Church may use the funds raised to support a mission outreach supported by the local congregation and then report that support to LACC.

HOUSE CHURCH

A. Financially support LACC

H. Each HC shall contribute a minimum of \$1.00 per member to LACC up to 1% of the churches total tithe each quarter (every three months). This does not include designated offerings.

- (i) Each HC shall raise funds through voluntary contributions for missions.
NOTE: A LACC Church/Ministry that plants a HC and directs the HC to take up regular contributions, will give 10% (the tithe) of the total contributions received by the HC to LACC and in addition will at least monthly take up a voluntary missions offering to be sent to LACC for use in world missions. A LACC Church/Ministry that cannot receive offerings (not set up to account for offerings) will contribute 100% of funds raised in the HC to LACC along with a detailed list of the source of the contributions. The LACC Church/Ministry and LACC will cooperatively document the intended use of the money and use it for the purposes intended.

B. Submit reports

- (i) Each HC must submit a report each month detailing the attendance.
(ii) Each HC must submit a financial donation report each month. NOTE: LACC will sign and return a copy of the financial report to the HC that should be keep and made available to any person who attends the HC as a means of accountability.

C. Support world missions Each HC commits to support world missions at least once a month. It is the intention of LACC that the HC take up a special offering designated for world missions.

BENEFITS

The benefits of being part of the LACC are intended assist affiliates in fulfilling the call of God. The benefits provided over time through the suggestions of LACC affiliates.

ORDINATION & CHURCH/MINISTRY

- A. **As an LACC** affiliate you have the ability to recommend candidates for acknowledgement as ordained and or Church/Ministry.
- B. **Periodic Newsletters** LACC produces and emails its newsletter to affiliates. The newsletter is intended to keep affiliates up to date on ministry issues.
- C. **Participation in world missions** Because many smaller congregations and ministries are not otherwise involved in mission outreach, LACC give each affiliate the opportunity to be involved in ongoing missions.
- D. **Affiliate only website** LACC maintains an affiliate only website with resources specifically intended to enhance you ministry. The content is always changing as affiliates make suggestions regarding the types of information that would be beneficial to their ministry.
- E. **Email access to pastoral staff** All affiliates have access to LACC pastoral staff by email regarding any ministry matter. This is a tool to allow you and your ministry to gain wise counsel. No issue is too small. Please be aware that responses are made in order they are received unless the email clearly identifies an emergent issue. It is our intention to have each email received answered personally.
- F. **Online support** LACC attempts to take advantage of technology. We do not publicize the office phone number but it is given out to affiliates. The office has an answering machine that is checked periodically. Do to the nature of our financial requirements it is not feasible to staff phone service sufficiently that affiliates would get responsive service.
- G. **Ministry Networking** As an affiliate, your non confidential information (name, location and email) will be made available to other affiliates. We encourage ministers to fellowship even if it just by email.
- H. **Preferred access to conferences** LACC affiliates have access to ministry events and conference whether by web, phone or in person. When events are open to the general ministry public, LACC affiliates are given priority.
- I. **Documentation** LACC affiliates receive documentation that supports their relationship with LACC. In the event an affiliate needs replacement documents, they can contact the ministry offices to receive replacements. Every two years affiliates are asked to update their contact information, in exchange LACC provides an updated laminated ordination card.

- J. **Verification services** Affiliates in good standing can take advantage of our verification service. Any person wishing to verify your ordination acknowledgement may either email LACC at the address on the back of your credential card or contact the ministry by postal mail. In return they will receive a response from the ministry. You also have the option of presenting them with a verification letter. If additional information is needed they can contact us in accordance with the instruction in the letter.

Ministry Support LACC can provide ministry support like forms, documents, recommendations, ideas, IRS information and advice (non-legal) to assist in the ministry operation.

- A. **Involvement in LACC events** LACC affiliates will be invited to participate in LACC events and events conducted by affiliates and system ministries.
- B. **Use of LACC Logo** LACC Affiliates can (and are encouraged) use the LACC logo on websites, business cards, letter head. Affiliates may also use the line “a LACC Affiliate” or “a LACC Affiliate Church or Ministry”. All affiliates are asked to place a link on their website to the “www.2timothy45.org” on their contact page.
- C. **Website listed on LACC Site** LACC Affiliates may submit their website to LACC to be added to the LACC links page on the ministry website.
- D. **Forms** LACC can provide information for governmental specific forms and complete forms on behalf of the affiliate when required by local, state or federal statute.
- E. **Partner ministries** We encourage affiliates to take advantage of our partner ministries. These can be located on the main website www.2timothy45.org. These partners offer quality products, most at reduced prices or contribute a portion of their proceeds to support LACC missions.

WORLD MISSIONS

LACC has a vision for world missions. Many LACC affiliates had not been involved in a missions program, until after becoming affiliated with LACC. And still other LACC affiliates had existing missions programs which they have continued to support after participating in the LACC. LACC will consider adopting new missions outreaches supported by the new LACC affiliates. Either way as a LACC affiliate you will become involved in our missions program. Through the combined efforts of each affiliate we are able to have a significant impact and yet no one affiliate endures a heavy burden. Affiliate churches may send their missions giving to LACC in either one of three ways:

- A. Self Support Provide a report of the mission project supported and how the affiliate supported the outreach.
- B. Unrestricted Funds that are raised specifically for missions with no particular work specified are considered “unrestricted” missions funds. The money sent to LACC after prayerful review by the Overseers, and are used for ongoing missions projects. 100% of all mission funds are used for missions and we take every step to ensure the most cost effective means of transmitting funds to foreign countries.
- C. Designated Funds Designated funds must be sent to LACC with a letter designating the specific mission project or country the funds are to be used for. 100% of all mission funds are used for missions and we take every step to ensure the most cost effective means of transmitting funds to foreign countries.

FINANCIAL PARTICIPATION

REQUIREMENTS The Overseers, Advisor and affiliates after much prayer and discussion have based the financial requirements upon the Biblical principle found in Numbers 18:26 and Nehemiah 10:36. LACC does not charge dues, fees or an assessment, rather we believe in implementing the principles of God our giving. The wisdom found through our affiliates represents an equitable and Godly approach to fulfilling and supporting the work of God.

ORDAINED MINISTER

CHURCH/MINISTRY

- A. Church Each Church shall contribute \$1.00 per member to LACC up to 1% of the churches total tithe each quarter (every three months). This does not include designated offerings.
- B. Though Biblically the tithe would be considered the first 10% of the believer's contribution LACC exempts from the tithe, offerings that are for a designated purpose like missions and build projects
- C. Ministry Each non-congregation ministry shall contribute \$1.00 per member to LACC up to 1% of the churches total tithe each quarter (every three months). This does not include designated offerings.
- D. World Missions Each Church/Ministry commits to support world missions twice a year. It is the intention of LACC that congregations take up a special offering designated for LACC missions. However a Church may use the funds raised to support a mission outreach supported by the local congregation and then report that support to LACC.

HOUSE CHURCH

- (i) Each HC shall contribute a minimum \$1.00 per member to LACC up to 1% of the churches total tithe each quarter (every three months). This does not include designated offerings.
- (ii) Each HC shall raise funds through voluntary contributions for missions. NOTE: A LACC Church/Ministry that plant a HC and directs the HC to take up regular contributions, will give 10% (the tithe) of the total contributions received by the HC to LACC and in addition will at least monthly take up a voluntary missions offering to be sent to LACC for use in world missions. A LACC Church/Ministry that cannot receive offerings (not set up to account for offerings) will contribute 100% of funds raised in the HC to LACC along with a detailed list of the source of the contributions. The LACC Church/Ministry and LACC will cooperatively document the intended use of the money and use it for the purposes intended.

PROCESS

LACC believes in the autonomy and independence of each LACC affiliate. Further we believe in the importance in solidarity of purpose knowing that God has called each affiliate and instilled a distinct vision for each. By remaining faithful to our commitments and the calling of God we will be able together to fulfill the Great Commission and establish His covenant throughout the whole earth.

Contributions may be made by PayPal or by postal mail to LACC at 2711 Sheridan Road Suite 208, Zion, IL 60099 Contributions should be sent in by the 7th day of the designated quarterly month.

OPPORTUNITIES

LACC is an organization made of ordained ministers, congregations and ministries in the service of the Lord Jesus Christ. Through our common purpose we are joined together by a common vision to see the world impacted for God. To see the vision fulfilled, we need to make the vision personal and participate in its fulfillment. Therefore we ask every LACC affiliate to seek God through prayer when considering their full part of the LACC purpose and vision by:

- A. Volunteering to serve in an official LACC capacity
- B. Aiding churches in need of equipment and financial resources
- C. Aid in congregation planting
- D. Support of world missions If you have a desire to be involved in a particular country or specific work cooperatively we can work together to this end.
- E. Communicate with other LACC affiliates

CERTIFICATES

ORDINATION GUIDELINES LACC is an association of ordained ministers, congregations (churches) and non-congregation ministries. We believe there is a scriptural basis for each LACC affiliate to maintain autonomy. We support the divinely granted authority of the senior minister and the leadership of Church/Ministry. Upon the recommendation of an affiliate in good standing LACC will accept for participation in the LACC any application for ordination or Church/Ministry where there is a direct ministry relationship between the applicant and the LACC affiliate. Upon approval of the application, LACC will issue a ministry Certificate containing the official seal of the ministry. The Certificate is considered the property of LACC and must be surrendered upon request.

ORDINATION

An application for ordination received by LACC will undergo a thorough review. All applicants will be subject to full disclosure and back ground checks. The recommendations received by LACC the review process will help in ascertaining the calling of God through the fruit in the life of the applicant. The following is the basic qualifications that all applicants must meet in addition to the LACC requirements:

- A. Ordination is reserved to individuals called by God who have surrendered their life to the Lord Jesus Christ, to be used in the pursuit of a life- long ministerial calling, fulfilling the role as an anointed one of God, set apart.
- B. Ordination is the act of LACC or any other assembly, holding in common the belief in salvation by no other name than Jesus Christ, whereby an individual is acknowledged as being set apart for ministry by God.
- C. Because ordination is reserved to God it is LACC responsibility to confirm such by the following:
 - By verbal confirmation in prayer.
 - By an act signifying the anointing of the Holy Spirit in the ordained life.
 - By presenting the candidate with a certificate of ordination containing the official seal of the ministry.

QUALIFICATIONS

The individual must be or have previously been ordained by a ministry which hold like beliefs as LACC believing that there is salvation by no other name than Jesus Christ or,

- The individual must be mature in the Lord and,
- The individual must have made a commitment to full time ministry.
- Full time commitment does not exempt an ordained individual from being required to fulfill outside employment.
- Full time ministry does not prevent the ordained individual from performing outside employment.
- Full time ministry is described as ones primary responsibility is to the work of God and to the duties required of a child of God and,
- The individual must be four years beyond the age of accountability.

LACC will not acknowledge an individual as being ordained based upon education or the financial benefit it may bring to the ministry.

CHURCH/MINISTRY

An application form a Church/Ministry received by LACC will undergo review. All applicants will be subject to full disclosure and back ground checks. The recommendations received by LACC during the review will help ascertaining the calling of God through the fruit in the life of the applicant.

HOUSE CHURCH

An application for an I Believe House Church will undergo review. All applicants are subject to full disclosure and back ground checks.

REVOCAION OF CERTIFICATE

LACC may revoke any issued certificate(s) with or without cause. Any affiliate who has had their credential revoked may appeal the decision to the Overseers.