

Alabama District

**United
Pentecostal
Church**

**Mother/Daughter
Church Policy**

**Adopted at the 2003 Alabama District Conference
Montgomery, Alabama April 26th, 2003**

ALABAMA DISTRICT UNITED PENTECOSTAL CHURCH

Whereas the Alabama District United Pentecostal Church has an aggressive vision of establishing a large number of churches within the next five years. A large percentage of these new church plants will be daughter works. The Alabama District Board with the Alabama District Home Missions Department presents the following other/Daughter church policy for adoption. This will replace the current policy in the Alabama District By-laws, Article III, Section C, Paragraph 8.

The General Board of the United Pentecostal Church International approved the following definition of a Daughter Congregation:

“A Daughter Congregation is a congregation which has met at least three months, and is the result of the concerted efforts of an established Mother Church to plant a new congregation, and holds at least one service per week apart from the Mother Church, and is under the general oversight of the pastor of the Mother Church. A Daughter Congregation must have the approval of either the Home Missions Executive Committee (UPCI Manual, Article XIII, Missions Policy, Section 12, Paragraph 5, Sub-point A) or the District Board before they can be listed in the annual UPCI Directory. A list of approved Daughter Congregations shall be provided to the Church Division and printed in the Church Directory.”

It should be noted that our churches have the freedom to conduct extension ministries in their area to the furtherance of the gospel of Jesus Christ. This policy is addressed to those situations where a church plant is desired which will lead to the establishing of a United Pentecostal Church in a certain geographical location.

District definitions:

A Mother Church is an established United Pentecostal Church that has the desire and means to assist in starting another work. Which will one day be a United Pentecostal Church.

A Daughter Work is a church plant started by the mother church that, hopefully, will become a United Pentecostal Church.

An Extension is any outreach that does not involve a church plant.

Guidelines for Establishing a Daughter Congregation:

- A. The pastor of any Mother Church may request permission to establish a Daughter Congregation in an unchurched or underchurched city by submitting an application to the District Home Missions Director.
- B. The District Home Missions Director will seek to gain the approval of the District Superintendent, Presbyterian of the Section where the Daughter Congregation is to be established, and the Home Missions Director of said Section, which constitutes the Home Missions Executive Committee.
- C. A negative decision by any person(s) holding the above positions may be appealed to the District Board for a final decision.
- D. The executive committee will check for proper distance from other Churches, and shall give fair consideration to surrounding United Pentecostal churches when considering an application for a new Daughter Congregation.
- E. After gaining approval to establish a Daughter Congregation, they may begin services immediately. The church plant will become a bona fide Daughter Congregation after meeting at least once per week for three consecutive months. If these requirements are not met by six months after notification of approval, the Mother Church must reapply for approval to continue the work.
- F. The Daughter Congregation shall continue its relationship with the Mother Church until the pastor of said Mother Church makes application to the District for Home Missions or autonomous church status.
- G. The Daughter Congregation shall endeavor to work in harmony with the Presbyterian and Home Missions Director of the section where the Daughter Congregation is established.
- H. The Mother Church and the members of the Daughter Congregation assume full financial responsibility for the Daughter Congregation. Home Missions funds may not be used to underwrite a Daughter Congregation.
- I. The pastor of the Mother Church assumes full responsibility for selecting and overseeing the staff of the Daughter Congregation.
- J. No member of another church is to be asked to help or minister at the daughter church without first receiving permission from the

- mother church pastor, who will clear it with any other pastors involved.
- K. During the tenure as a Daughter Work, the Leader of the work may attend District Home Missions Seminars, retreats, and training sessions at their own expense.
 - L. Both Mother church Pastor and Daughter church Pastor are to meet the District Board for approval before the Daughter Work is granted Home Missions, or autonomous church status. Application will be submitted through the District Home Missions Director.
 - M. Before the District Board approves a new Home Missions Church in an area where a Daughter Work is located, the Mother Church shall be given the opportunity to apply for Home Missions or autonomous church status (on behalf of an existing Daughter Congregation).
 - N. If the Mother Church chooses not to make an application for established Home Missions or autonomous church status for its existing Daughter Congregation, the District Board will consider the application for Home Missions Church status by the bona fide ministerial candidate.
 - O. If the District Board approves the establishment of a Home Missions church in an area where there is an existing approved Daughter Congregation, the recognized congregation shall continue operating as a Daughter Congregation within their approved area.
 - P. The Pastor of the Mother Church shall strive to develop and maintain ethical relationships with surrounding United Pentecostal Churches, including attendance of any member of their church who visits the Daughter Congregation.