

BYLAWS OF THE  
WESLEYAN THEOLOGICAL SOCIETY

(As adopted by the WTS, November 8, 1969, at Marion, IN,  
and subsequently amended and revised through November 2, 1991.)

ARTICLE I. Name

The name of this organization shall be The Wesleyan Theological Society.

ARTICLE II. Relationship to the CHA and Purposes

Section 1. Relationship to the Christian Holiness Association.  
This Society shall be regarded as a Commission of the Christian Holiness Association and through its President shall submit a report of its activities to the annual convention of the CHA.

Section 2. Purposes.

- A. To promote theological interchange among Wesleyan/holiness scholars and other persons interested in this area;
- B. To provide theological leadership to the CHA, including offering a doctrinal seminar at its annual convention;
- C. To stimulate scholarship among younger theologians and pastors;
- D. To publish a journal consisting of significant contributions to Wesleyan/holiness scholarship.

ARTICLE III. Doctrinal Basis

While WTS members are not required to sign a statement of faith, the society works within the context of the CHA and its statement of faith / mission statement:

The Christian Holiness Association is a body of churches, organizations, and individuals who accept the inspiration and infallibility of sacred Scripture and evangelical doctrine that pertains to divine revelation, the incarnation, the resurrection, the second coming of Christ, the Holy Spirit, and the Church as affirmed in the historic Christian creeds. The particular concern of this fellowship is the biblical doctrine of sanctification identified historically in what is known as the Wesleyan position.

The association believes that personal salvation includes both the new birth and the entire sanctification wrought by God in the heart by faith. Entire sanctification is the crisis experience subsequent to conversion that results in a heart cleansed from all sin and filled with the Holy Spirit. This grace is witnessed to by the Holy Spirit. It is maintained by that faith which expresses itself in constant obedience to God's revealed will and results in a moment-by-moment cleansing.

ARTICLE IV. Membership

Section 1. Types and Privileges of Members in the WTS.

- A. Full Members: Full members are those who affirm the purposes of the society as expressed in Articles II and III, above. Full Members are entitled to attend all meetings, to vote and to hold office, to present papers and to receive the Journal upon the payment of annual dues.

B. Affiliate Members: The Society offers affiliate membership to persons who are interested in the work of the Society but who do not wish to become full members. Affiliate members shall be entitled to attend all meetings, to present papers and to receive the Journal upon the payment of annual dues, but do not vote or hold office.

C. Student Members: Members who are currently enrolled in undergraduate or graduate studies. Student Members shall be entitled to attend all meetings of the Society and to receive the Journal upon the payment of annual dues. Upon the completion of their formal academic training, Student Members must notify the Secretary in writing and elect the type of membership they desire and for which they are qualified.

D. Honorary Members: Members who were charter members of the WTS, or who have twenty or more years of continuous membership in the Society, and who notify the Secretary in writing, shall be exempted from further payment of dues upon retirement, with full rights and privileges accorded them in the type of membership they have maintained immediately prior to retirement.

#### Section 2. Qualification for Membership.

A. All Full Members shall be in accord with the purposes of the Society as expressed in Articles II and III of these Bylaws.

B. Persons who desire membership in the WTS shall complete the membership application form and pay the membership dues for the current calendar year.

C. All applications for membership must include recommendation by a Full Member of the Society.

D. Members may change as desired from one type of membership to another at any time by a written request to the Secretary.

#### Section 3. Membership Dues.

A. Membership dues shall be based upon the calendar year.

B. Membership dues shall be determined annually upon the recommendation of the Executive Committee and by a majority vote of the Full Members present and voting at a regular business meeting of the Society.

C. Any member who does not pay dues during a given calendar year will not receive the Journal the following year until the dues are paid in full for the current calendar year as well as for the past year.

D. Members who do not pay their dues for two years or more, up to five years, shall be placed on an inactive list; they may be restored to active membership when dues for the current year and the immediate past year are paid in full, whereupon they shall receive the Journal for both years.

E. After five or more years of inactive membership a person must reapply for membership in the Society.

### ARTICLE V. Officers

Section 1. The officers of this Society shall be a President, a First Vice-President, a Second Vice-President, and a Secretary-Treasurer. These officers shall perform the duties as prescribed by these Bylaws and by the parliamentary authority adopted by the Society.

Section 2. The Nominating Committee shall nominate candidates for the offices and committee memberships to be filled at the annual meeting of the Society. The Nominating Committee shall prepare a ballot using every reasonable

effort to submit at least two names as nominees for each office or committee membership, with additional nominations from the floor permitted before the election.

Section 3. The officers shall be elected by ballot to serve for one year or until their successors are elected, with the exception of the Secretary-Treasurer, who shall be elected for three years. The term of the officers shall begin at the close of the annual meeting at which they are elected.

Section 4. In case of a vacancy in any office except that of President, the Executive Committee shall appoint an eligible person from the membership to fill the unexpired term and/or until the regular election at the annual meeting. If the office of the President becomes vacant the First Vice-President shall succeed to that office, the Second Vice-President shall become First Vice-President and the Executive Committee may appoint an eligible person to fill the unexpired term of the Second Vice-President.

#### ARTICLE VI. Duties of Officers

Section 1. The President shall preside at all business meetings; serve as chair of the Executive Committee; present an annual report of the activities of the Society to the Christian Holiness Association at the time of its Annual Convention; and, represent the general interests of the Society whenever possible.

Section 2. The First Vice-President shall serve as the chair of the Program and Arrangements Committee to plan and promote the program for the Annual Meeting which occurs during his or her term of office. He or she shall fulfill the duties of the President if the latter is unable to serve and shall succeed to the office of the President when the President's term of office expires or in case of a vacancy.

Section 3. The Second Vice-President shall serve as the chair of the Program and Arrangements Committee to plan and promote the program for the annual meeting which occurs during his or her term of office as First Vice-President. He or she shall succeed to the office of First Vice-President when the First Vice-President becomes the President, except as provided in ARTICLE V: Officers, Section 4.

Section 4. The Secretary-Treasurer shall maintain the records and properties of the Society; collect and disburse its funds; provide for adequate insurance for the properties of the Society in consultation with the Executive Committee; prepare an annual budget and submit it to the Executive Committee for approval before it is presented to the Annual Business Meeting; present a fiscal report to the membership at the Annual Meeting; submit the financial records to an auditor who is approved by the Executive Committee prior to the presentation of the fiscal report at the Annual Meeting; and, report periodically to the Executive Committee, as deemed necessary, in the interim between the Annual Meetings. Disbursement of funds shall be at the direction of the Executive Committee, except for regular or routine matters.

ARTICLE VII. Meetings

Section 1. The Society shall meet annually on the first Friday and Saturday of November for the prepared program and the business meeting.

Section 2. The fiscal year shall be from November 1, to October 31, to correspond with the Annual Meeting and the term of officers and committees.

Section 3. The place of the Annual Meeting shall be determined by the Executive Committee from written invitations submitted by the chief administrator of an institution or other facility.

Section 4. The Active Full Members of the Society who are present at the Annual Business Meeting shall constitute a quorum.

Section 5. Regional meetings may be developed as interest in the Society grows.

ARTICLE VIII. The Executive Committee

Section 1. The Executive Committee shall consist of the officers of the Society and the chair of the Editorial Committee.

Section 2. The duties and powers of the Executive Committee shall be:

- A. To act in the interim between the Annual Meetings of the Society;
- B. To appoint a Nominating Committee of not fewer than five persons from among the Active Full Membership, one of whom shall be named as chair, with committee members being appointed and notified of their duties no later than September 1, each year;
- C. To serve as the Program and Arrangements Committee, with the First and Second Vice-Presidents as chairs in the respective year of their office as First Vice-President.
- D. To determine the place of the Annual Meeting from the written invitations received from the chief administrator of an institution or other facility;
- E. To direct the disbursement of funds, except for regular or routine matters;
- F. To review and approve the Annual Budget prepared by the Secretary-Treasurer, prior to its presentation for adoption by the membership at the Annual Meeting;
- G. To periodically review the insurance coverage of the Society's properties with the Secretary-Treasurer;
- H. To annually review and set the price of the Journal to be sold in single copies or in sets to the various publics and to publicize the same in the Journal;
- I. To annually review the amount of the membership dues and to make recommendation to the membership at the Annual Business Meeting;
- J. To provide for an annual honorarium for the Secretary-Treasurer from the funds of the Society;
- K. To work with the Editorial Committee in determining the content of the Society's publications;

L. To approve the minutes of the Annual Business Meeting and the minutes of the Executive Committee; and,

M. To appoint an eligible person from the membership to fill any vacancy which occurs in the offices or committees of the Society in the interim between the Annual Meetings, except that of President.

#### ARTICLE IX. Committees

Section 1. A Program and Arrangements Committee shall consist of the Executive Committee, with the First and Second Vice-Presidents as chairs in the respective year of their office as First Vice-President. It shall secure personnel and complete all arrangements for the annual meetings and for all the seminar programs of the Society.

Section 2. An Editorial Committee shall consist of the Chair, who shall be elected for three years and who shall serve as the Editor of the Journal, in addition to two other persons, each of whom shall serve for a term of three years, with one member elected or reelected each year. The Committee shall select materials and prepare the Society's Journal for publication and shall work in cooperation with the Executive Committee in determining the content of the WTS publications.

Section 3. A Nominating Committee shall consist of the five most recent past presidents of the Society. The immediate past president of the Society shall serve as chair. Should any of the five most recent past presidents be unable or ineligible to serve, the next most recent past president, able and eligible, shall serve. Should the immediate past president be unable or ineligible to serve, the committee may elect its own chair. The committee shall present to the annual meeting or the Society a ballot as prescribed in ARTICLE V, Section 2.

#### ARTICLE X. Parliamentary Authority

The rules contained in the current edition of Robert's Rules of Order Newly Revised shall govern the Society in all cases to which they are applicable and in which they are not inconsistent with these Bylaws and any special rules of order the Society may adopt.

#### ARTICLE XI. Amendment of Bylaws

These Bylaws may be amended at any regular business meeting of the Society by a two-thirds vote of the active Full Members present, provided that the amendment has been submitted in writing to the members of the Society at least thirty days prior to the annual meeting to which it will be submitted.

### STANDING RULES

#### I. Relating to Membership

A. All new membership applications received at or following the annual meeting shall receive the current issue of the Journal as well as the new volume when it is published.

B. All new members shall be notified in writing of their acceptance by the Secretary-Treasurer, and shall receive a letter of welcome.

C. Members who are deceased in any given fiscal year shall be included in the Secretary-Treasurer's annual report.

D. An honor roll of deceased charter members, active at the time of their death, shall be printed in the Journal each year with the date of their death.

## II. Relating to Officers, Committees and Procedures

A. The expenses of the officers and committee members shall be paid for everything pertaining to The Wesleyan Theological Society, except for the annual meeting expense of travel and entertainment, provided a written, itemized report is presented to the Secretary-Treasurer.

B. The dates of the expiration of committee members' term of office on the various standing committees shall be carried in the Journal along with the committee and officer listings.

C. The advertising rate in the Journal shall be reviewed periodically by the Executive Committee. It is currently \$50.00 per page of \$30.00 per half page.

D. A cumulative index shall be included in the Journal at five-year intervals.

E. Guidelines for the Nominating Committee (cf. Bylaws, ART. V, Sect. 2).

1. While perceived ability to carry forward the work of the Society in an acceptable manner and spirit should be the primary consideration in making nominations, the Nominating Committee may give consideration also to variety of denominational representation in the leadership of the Society.

2. The Nominating Committee should have its work done no less than thirty days before the annual meeting of the Society. This includes consultation with any candidates to ascertain their availability for service. The Secretary of the Society should be informed as soon as the Committee has decided upon a ballot so that it may be prepared for the meeting by the Secretary.

## DUTIES OF THE WTS PRESIDENT-ELECT

### November Meeting of Election

1. Attend Executive Committee meeting following Annual Meeting.
2. Participate in an initial brain-storming of ideas for the Annual Meeting for which he/she will be responsible (two years hence).

### Subsequent April

1. Attend Executive Committee meeting at CHA convention.
2. Come prepared to help focus the selection of topic for the Annual Meeting under their supervision. This may include suggestions of special keynote speakers, etc.
3. As soon as the topic is established, publish a call for papers as broadly as possible. Likely media would include:

Historian's Digest. (UMHS) Arthur Swarthout, editor. 100 East 8th St., Gordon, NE 69343

Institute for the Study of American Evangelicals. Wheaton College, Wheaton, IL 60187.

Oxfordnotes. Richard Heitzenrater, ed. Perkins School of Theology, SMU, Dallas, TX 75275.

Proceedings of the Wesley Historical Society. E. Alan Rose, ed. 26, Roe Cross Green, Mottram, Hyde, Cheshire, SK14 6LP.

Wesley Studies Section Newsletter, (AAR) Steven Gunter, SNU, 6729 NW 39th Expressway, Bethany, OK 73008.

World Parish, P.O. Box 518, Lake Junaluska, NC 28745

WTS and CHA channels

4. Make initial contacts with possible keynote speaker.
5. Make initial contacts with Host Institution to insure that there is clarity on the date of the meeting, the expectations of the Host Institution, etc.

### Subsequent November

1. Attend Executive Committee meetings preceding and following Annual Meeting.
2. Report on status of planning for his/her Annual Meeting, seeking any specific advice needed.
3. At close of Annual Meeting, present a brief description of and call for papers for the following meeting (which he/she is planning).

## DUTIES OF THE WTS PRESIDENT-ELECT

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### Subsequent April

1. Attend Executive Committee meeting at CHA.
2. Come prepared to finalize all program details for upcoming Annual Meeting.
3. As soon as program details are finalized, arrange for printing of program (through Zondervan press) and its distribution by early summer.

### Subsequent November (his/her Annual Meeting)

1. Attend Executive Committee meeting preceding Annual Meeting.
2. Supervise details of the operation of the Annual Meeting.
3. Preside over the Annual Banquet.
4. Arrange for any desired pictures, etc., to be used in records and news releases on the Annual Meeting.
5. Assume chair of Executive Committee beginning with Executive Meeting following Annual Meeting.
6. Following the Annual Meeting, send out news releases on the meeting to appropriate sources, such as: Christian Century, Christianity Today, Historian's Digest, Proceedings of the Wesley Historical Society, United Methodist Reporter (P.O. Box 660275, Dallas, TX 75266), World Parish.

### Subsequent April

1. Attend and chair the Executive Committee meeting (CHA).
2. Present (or arrange for) the Wesleyan Theological Society program at the CHA meeting.

### Subsequent November

1. Attend and chair Executive Committee meeting before Annual Meeting.
2. Preside over all general sessions and business session of the Annual Meeting.
3. Present the President's address at the annual banquet.
4. Term ends at close of Annual Meeting.

### Before Subsequent November

1. Act as chair for Nominating Committee (composed of five previous Presidents of the Society). Prepare the nomination slate for the election of officers at the business session of the Annual Meeting.