

## **X — ORDINATION**

We understand that the New Testament does not provide an absolute definition of ordination. However, we recognize the need to have a system for credentialing ministers that satisfies denominational and governmental requirements. We refer to this credentialing procedure as licensing and ordination.

Licensing is our recognition of the calling, giftedness and preparation of a person for a life of vocational ministry.

Ordination is the consecration of a person to ministry upon full proof of calling, giftedness and preparation as affirmed by the church.

We believe the responsibility and authority that accompanies ordination is primarily moral and spiritual and merits appropriate respect and submission from those served.

— Adopted by the 1999 General Conference