

## **New Church Sponsorship Criteria Church of the Nazarene**

A church that devotes substantial amounts of evangelistic energy and resources into new church sponsorship will receive special notation in the Assembly Journals and within computerized data systems at Headquarters.

Church sponsorship is understood to be a local church taking the initiative in starting and at least partially supporting the formation of a congregation that has the goal of becoming a fully organized church. Also, a church may be granted sponsorship status by positively responding to the district's appeal for support.

Sponsorship status will be conferred on churches meeting at least one of the following sets of criteria, and may be recorded on the Pastor's Report form and on the Church Directory Sheet for the district journal.

- 1) Core Group sponsorship: A number of lay people equal to at least 10% of the previous year's average worship attendance is "given" to the new church. (The minimum requirement would be 6 adults; the maximum requirement would be 100.) This confers sponsorship status for the assembly year in which the people are transferred to the new work and the following assembly year, and may be recorded on the Pastor's Report form and on the Church Directory Sheet for the district journal.
- 2) Financial sponsorship: Actual cash is provided, either directly to the new congregation or as payment of the new group's obligations (including new church leadership), equal to 2% of the previous year's Raised for All Purposes. This confers sponsorship status for each year that these criteria are met, and may be recorded on the Pastor's Report form and on the Church Directory Sheet for the district journal.
- 3) Gifts in Kind sponsorship: Documentable support\* is provided to the new congregation equal to 3% of the previous years Raised for All Purposes. This support may be the contribution and/or use of church equipment (chairs, vans, buses, hymnals) or church facilities (often done in multi-congregational settings) or any other means that provides tangible help to the new group or to the pastoral family (food poundings, clothing, etc.) This confers sponsorship status for each year that these criteria are met, and may be recorded on the Pastor's Report form and on the Church Directory Sheet for the district journal.

\* Maintain a list of all Gifts in Kind with an estimated value for each item

*worksheet on reverse side*