



**Resolution on Ministerial/Facility Protection Against Forced
Officiating/Hosting of Same-Sex Marriages adopted by the
96th General Assembly of the Church of God
June 26, 2014**

WHEREAS, the ultimate authority for the Church of God movement (Anderson) is biblical revelation; and

WHEREAS, biblical revelation is understood by this movement to teach the appropriateness of a sexual relationship only between a man and a woman within the bonds of marriage (General Assembly resolution of June, 1993); and

WHEREAS, biblical revelation is understood by this movement to teach that marriage is the sacred union of one woman and one man (General Assembly resolution of June, 2004); and

WHEREAS, the most recent edition (2011) of the *Credentials Manual* for Church of God ministers/chaplains in North America states in section 2.13 that “those to whom vocational credentialing is granted are expected to hold persuasions that are in general agreement with the teaching tradition of the Church of God movement”; and

WHEREAS, current legal trends and changing social practices threaten to bring pressure on pastors/chaplains of the Church of God to officiate at "marriage" ceremonies that are contrary to biblical revelation and thus to Church of God beliefs and expectations of its credentialed ministers/chaplains; therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED, that the General Assembly, convened in June, 2014, hereby reaffirms its traditional understandings of and sincerely-held religious beliefs about sexuality, marriage, and its related expectation of appropriate pastor/chaplain practice in these regards; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the General Assembly recommend that all national and local entities of the Church of God (Anderson) consider establishing policies that restrict the use of their facilities from same-sex marriages.