

*An Introduction to the*

# PCAFI

PENTECOSTAL CHURCHES OF THE APOSTOLIC FAITH INTERNATIONAL  
BISHOP LAMBERT W. GATES, SR., PRESIDING BISHOP



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# We are . . .

**800+ Churches • 28 Dioceses**  
**23 Auxiliaries • 19 Countries**  
**20,000+ Members**



# We are PCAFI Strong!

# What We Believe



**The PCAFI is a Oneness Apostolic movement of believers within Pentecostalism, standing firm in the belief that true baptism is in the name of Jesus only.**

## **Articles of Faith:**

- We believe the Holy Bible is the inspired Word of God.
- We believe in the Oneness of God—that there are three manifestations of the one God: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.
- We believe the name by which God is known is Lord Jesus Christ.
- We believe in the virgin birth, death, burial, and bodily resurrection of Jesus Christ.
- We believe in baptism in water in the name of Jesus according to Acts 2:38, and the infilling of the Holy Spirit according to Acts 2:4. This constitutes the new birth spoken of by the Lord Jesus Christ in John 3:5.
- We believe in living a holy, consecrated, and sanctified life.
- We believe in the translation of the saints, commonly known as the rapture (I Thess. 4:13-17).

# A Welcome From the Presiding Bishop

Bishop Lambert W. Gates, Sr.



Welcome! This informational brochure has been prepared for anyone who has an interest in our organization. This is just a snapshot view of some of our key elements. You can find more in-depth information on our website at [www.pcafintl.org](http://www.pcafintl.org). The PCAFI is a Pentecostal denomination standing strong in the Apostolic faith. We are a warm and welcoming body of believers committed to sharing the good news of Jesus Christ around the world, and dedicated to our fellowship with one another through the various components of our worldwide ministry. Whether you are considering joining our ranks as a church or individual, or just perusing this brochure to find out more about us, we hope that you will find something that captures your interest, such that you will want to become a part of our beautiful PCAFI family!

**Presiding Bishop Gates** is senior pastor of the multicampus Kingdom Apostolic Ministries in Detroit, Michigan; Indianapolis, Indiana; and Atlanta (Jonesboro), Georgia. His distinction as one pastor in multiple locations attests to the call on his life for expansive ministry. He is the founder of L.W. Gates Ministries and serves on the Board of Trustees at Martin University in Indianapolis. A graduate of the University of Michigan at Ann Arbor, he is a former high school English teacher, a position he held for several years before answering God's call to the pastorate. In 2022, he added to his educational resume the degree of Master of Arts in Theology from Fuller Theological Seminary. He is married to Nancy Franklin Gates and they have two sons, Lambert, Jr. (Erika) and Cameron, and two granddaughters.

# Leadership

## Executive Board

The Executive Board of the PCAFI comprises the following groups:

- Board of Bishops • Board of Directors
- Honorary Bishops • Suffragan Bishops • District Elders

## Executive Bishops Cabinet



**Bishop  
Lambert W. Gates, Sr.**  
Presiding Bishop



**Bishop  
J.E. Moore**  
Presiding Bishop  
Emeritus



**Bishop  
James Chapman**  
Second Assistant  
Presiding Bishop



**Bishop  
T. David Dockery, Sr.**  
Third Assistant  
Presiding Bishop



**Bishop  
Jerry L. Baldwin, Jr.**  
General Secretary



**Bishop  
Jonathon L. Pulliam, Sr.**  
Assistant  
General Secretary



**Bishop  
John T. Leslie, Jr.**  
General Treasurer



**Bishop  
Gary W. Frazier, Sr.**  
Assistant  
General Treasurer



**Bishop  
Vernon Spinks**  
Second Assistant  
General Treasurer

# Board of Directors

## Board of Directors

**Bishop Lambert W. Gates, Sr.**

President of the Corporation  
Chairman of the Board

**Bishop J.E. Moore**

Vice President of the Corporation  
Vice Chairman of the Board

**Bishop James Chapman**

Second Assistant Presiding Bishop

**Bishop T. David Dockery, Sr.**

Third Assistant Presiding Bishop

**Bishop Jerry L. Baldwin, Jr.**

General Secretary

**Bishop Jonathon L. Pulliam, Sr.**

Assistant General Secretary

**Bishop John T. Leslie, Jr.**

General Treasurer

**Bishop Gary W. Frazier, Sr.**

Assistant General Treasurer

**Bishop Vernon Spinks**

Second Assistant General Treasurer

**Pastor Viola Cullars**

Board Member

**Deacon Stephen Leslie**

Board Member

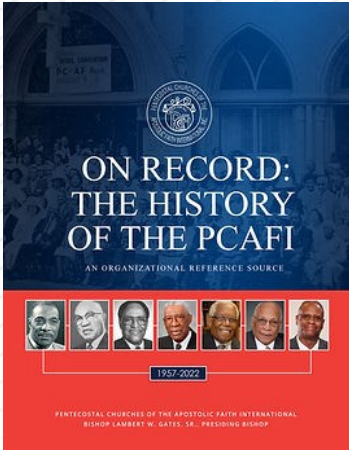
**Bishop Robert McKinstry**

Board Member

**Suffragan Bishop Steven Staten**

Board Member

# History & Heritage



Order the full in-depth story of the PCAFI at [www.pcaf.org](http://www.pcaf.org).

The Pentecostal Churches of the Apostolic Faith International (PCAFI) was founded by Bishop Samuel N. Hancock and officially incorporated on November 20, 1957. Established from its inception as a Oneness Pentecostal organization practicing baptism by full water immersion, Bishop Hancock stated the initial vision in these words: “The aim and purpose of this union is to maintain the standard of holiness and to perpetuate the principles of the Apostolic doctrine.” Today, with churches across the globe, the PCAFI remains committed to its trademark of spiritual excellence and integrity on behalf of the Apostolic faith.

## Past Presidents



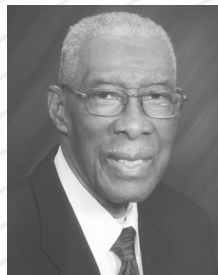
**Founder—Bishop Samuel N. Hancock**  
(1883-1963)  
Tenure: 1957-1963



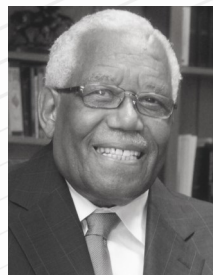
**Bishop Willie Lee**  
(1901-1969)  
Tenure: 1963-1964



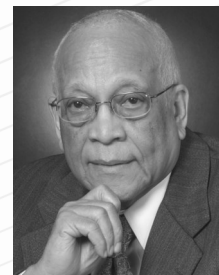
**Bishop Elzie W. Young**  
(1913-1989)  
Tenure: 1964-1989



**Bishop D. Rayford Bell**  
(1923-2013)  
Tenure: 1990-2000



**Bishop Alfred Singleton**  
(1928-2017)  
Tenure: 2000-2008



**Bishop J.E. Moore**  
(1939- )  
Tenure: 2008-2016



# Our Founder

Bishop Samuel N. Hancock



**Samuel Nathan Hancock** was born November 9, 1883, in Columbia, Adair County, Kentucky, and moved with his family to Indianapolis, Indiana, as a young child. At age 22, he was baptized and filled with the Holy Ghost under the pastorate of Bishop Garfield T. Haywood. Called to the ministry, he was ordained as a minister of the Gospel by the Pentecostal Assemblies of the World (PAW) and became assistant pastor to Bishop Haywood at Christ Temple Apostolic Faith Assembly in Indianapolis. In 1921, he moved to Detroit, Michigan, to assume the pastorate of a small mission which became known as Clinton Street Greater Bethlehem Temple Church and grew to a membership of more than 3,000 parishioners. In 1927, he was elevated to the bishopric by the PAW. In 1957, Bishop Hancock, along with four other men organized the Pentecostal Churches of the Apostolic Faith Association where he served as its presiding bishop until his death on August 18, 1963. He left behind thousands of people drawn to Christ through his works and ministry, a thriving organization with hundreds of churches, and a spiritual and humanitarian mark on the city of Detroit and the world.

# Annual Events



**Watch our website for current dates  
and information on these events:**

- **Bishops Board Meeting and LEAD Conference**  
Held annually in March
- **International Holy Convocation GROWTH Conference**  
Held annually in July
- **IEEE United Conference**  
Held annually in November

# Global Impact



The PCAFI believes that Christians have a responsibility to join God in His redemptive, compassionate, holistic work toward all people throughout the earth. Some of our global impact efforts to support this credence include:

## **Evangelism and Outreach**

The International Evangelism and Outreach Auxiliary spearheads programs and events that reach out and evangelize the spiritually lost and responds to the human needs of local communities.

## **Missions**

The Global Missions Auxiliary supports multiple churches and schools in Africa, Haiti, and the Philippines, and is increasing its reach with potential connections in the United Kingdom and South Africa. Its ongoing mission is to teach and train believers in evangelism and worldwide emergency response.

## **PCAFI Cares**

This initiative coordinates the response, support, and resources to natural disasters and emergencies that occur across the globe. In recent years, its efforts have included support to churches affected by the coronavirus pandemic; responses to hurricanes in Haiti, Puerto Rico, and the Bahamas; Texas floods, Mississippi water crisis; earthquake and civil unrest in Haiti, and the Maui (Hawaii) wildfires.

## **Church Development Auxiliary**

The Church Development Auxiliary works to establish churches in unevangelized and under-evangelized areas of North America, and provides financial and other means of ongoing support to home churches. This auxiliary administers the Christmas for Christ Campaign that raises funds to enlist, train, and support personnel to carry out their established works and programs.

PCAFI GENERAL THEME:

# Advancing the Kingdom

“To be effective in advancing God's Kingdom, we must rightly assess where we have been, where we are right now, and where it is we desire to go as an organization. We must not be afraid to go wherever God takes us. He will preserve us on the journey!”

— Presiding Bishop Gates



# Membership



## **Membership in the PCAFI strengthens and supports the organization numerically, financially, and spiritually.**

When you become a member, you are entitled to vote in our elections of officers, you are eligible to serve in various positions, you have access to ministry and leadership training tools and resources, and you receive exclusive discounts and perks on products and services. But most importantly, you become a part of the lifeblood of our ever-growing community of believers. We look forward to connecting with you!

**Visit our membership page at [www.pcafintl.org](http://www.pcafintl.org):**

- If you are a pastor of a non-PCAFI church who is interested in bringing your church into our organization
- If you are an individual who is a member of a PCAFI church but have never registered as a member of the organization
- If you are an individual who is a registered member of the organization and need to renew your annual membership

# Membership Benefits

## **Ministerial Excellence Center (MEC)**

In partnership with the Lilly Endowment, the PCAFI established the MEC which is dedicated to the advancement and education of the pastors of the organization. New programs are continually added for ongoing growth and development. Visit [www.pcafime.org](http://www.pcafime.org).

## **Ministerial Excellence Fund (MEF)**

As a recipient of a grant from the Lilly Endowment, the PCAFI established the MEF to address economic challenges facing its pastors which inhibit their abilities to minister effectively. Once a calendar year, pastors are able to submit grant applications for financial support for emergencies and burdensome debts. The MEF also makes scholarships available for pastors and/or their legal dependent children seeking to advance their education. Visit [www.pcafime.org](http://www.pcafime.org).

## **Educational Partnerships**

The PCAFI has developed partnerships with accredited institutions and financial counseling companies to advance the educational pursuits of our pastors, and financial literacy to our pastors, leaders, and members at a discounted rate.

## **Fuller Theological Seminary**

Fuller Theological Seminary provides a tuition discount for master's and doctorate level programs of study for PCAFI pastors. It also has developed an exclusive PCAFI certificate course of study. Upon completion of the six-course program, credit is given toward the completion of one course toward a master's degree. Visit <https://equip-store.fuller.edu/pcafi/>

## **Garrett Evangelical Theological Seminary**

Garrett Evangelical Theological Seminary allows our pastors and church leaders to focus on the principled items of Mission and Money, Finance Leadership Roles, and Sound Financial Practices. Through its research, Garrett has discovered these items are needed to make better decisions for the church one may attend. These courses examine three dimensions of congregational financial stewardship which correlates with these three motivations for giving: 1) belief in the mission, 2) trust in leadership, and 3) sound financial practices. Ministries that fulfill non-profit financial responsibilities and honor these motivations experience greater sustainability. Scholarships are available for pastors, the financial leadership of the church, and the laity as desired. The strength of this partnership will be in effect by early 2024.

# Membership Benefits cont'd

## **Christian Theological Seminary (CTS)**

Christian Theological Seminary offers pastors and ordained clergy the opportunity to apply for a sabbatical in the form of the Clergy Renewal Grant which is supported by the Lilly Endowment. The theme of the sabbatical is “What Makes Your Heart Sing?” The goal is to strengthen Christian congregations by providing opportunities for pastors to step away briefly from the persistent obligations of parish life. The sabbatical period is not a vacation, but a time of intentional exploration, renewal, and reflection. One objective is to help regain enthusiasm and creativity for ministry and discover what will make the pastor’s heart sing. Visit <https://www.cts.edu/cpe/clergy-renewal/resources>.

## **Lutheran Social Services (LSS)**

Lutheran Social Services provides financial literacy and services to support financial wellness for pastors, leaders, and members of the PCAFI at no cost. The parent body under the direction of the presiding bishop has a vision for debt relief for all members of the PCAFI. To this end, this fee has been paid for and pastors and members are able to attend free of charge. Call 800-528-2926 to make an appointment. Visit [www.issmn.org/pcafi](http://www.issmn.org/pcafi).

## **PCAFI Community Impact Empowerment (PCIE)**

This program is designed to train pastors on the techniques and skills needed to impact their communities for the Kingdom. It provides access to skilled professionals in the area of community development, grant development, strategic funding, and more. While participation is not limited to PCAFI pastors, the program is designed with our pastors in mind. Visit [www.pcafi.org](http://www.pcafi.org).

## **Monthly Pastors Training and Collaboration Sessions**

Twice a month, the PCAFI presiding bishop meets with the pastors of the organization. These informative sessions (begun during the height of COVID) are designed to develop relationships between the pastors as well as provide training, encouragement, and fellowship.

## **Regional Councils**

The PCAFI is organized regionally to provide additional fellowship and collaboration opportunities. When you join the PCAFI, you are assigned to the council in your region. Each council has meetings throughout the year and provides training and worship experiences for its members.

## **5% of Tithing Assessment Program**

Unlike other organizations, the PCAFI does not require an annual membership fee from its churches. Instead, each church is asked to dedicate 5% of the tithing it receives to the organization. The funds that are received are used for Kingdom business, including but not limited to: supporting domestic ministry, supporting international ministry, establishing and expanding the global footprint of the PCAFI, and providing developmental and educational opportunities for and leaders.

Fee: \$25.00



# Application for Membership with the Pentecostal Churches of the Apostolic Faith International (PCAFI)

Pentecostal Churches of the Apostolic Faith International  
723 S. 45th Street | Louisville, KY 40211  
Office: 502-778-7948 | Fax: 502-778-0638

Church name \_\_\_\_\_

Church address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Church phone (     ) \_\_\_\_\_

Senior pastor's name \_\_\_\_\_

We, members of the above named church, apply for membership with the Pentecostal Churches of the Apostolic Faith International (PCAFI). We will support righteousness and true holiness according to the doctrine of the apostles and will abide by the laws of the PCAFI. This statement was passed by a majority of the members present at a regular/call meeting of the above named church held on: \_\_\_\_\_ / \_\_\_\_\_ / \_\_\_\_\_.

Senior pastor \_\_\_\_\_

Assistant pastor \_\_\_\_\_

Secretary \_\_\_\_\_

District Elder \_\_\_\_\_

Deacon \_\_\_\_\_

Trustee \_\_\_\_\_

Referred by \_\_\_\_\_



# Application for Membership with the PCAFI

## Profile of Senior Pastor

Senior pastor's name \_\_\_\_\_

Home address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Home phone (     ) \_\_\_\_\_ Office phone (     ) \_\_\_\_\_

Name of your most recent organization affiliation \_\_\_\_\_

What license/credentials did you hold with this organization? \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Address of the organization's headquarters \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone (     ) \_\_\_\_\_

Organizational leader (presiding bishop, prelate, etc.) \_\_\_\_\_

Leader's address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Leader's phone number \_\_\_\_\_

Former pastor's name \_\_\_\_\_

Former pastor's address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Former pastor's phone \_\_\_\_\_

# Application for Membership with the PCAFI

## Profile of Senior Pastor continued

Answer the following questions as accurately and completely as you can:

### Personal:

Date of birth: Month \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_ Year \_\_\_\_\_

Marital status: Single \_\_\_\_\_ Married \_\_\_\_\_ Widowed \_\_\_\_\_ Divorced \_\_\_\_\_

Date of marriage \_\_\_\_\_

Spouse's name \_\_\_\_\_

Date of divorce (if applicable) \_\_\_\_\_ Reason for divorce \_\_\_\_\_

How many children do you have? \_\_\_\_\_

What are the ages of your children (if applicable) \_\_\_\_\_

What company/agency do you work for? (If applicable) \_\_\_\_\_

### Salvation/Ministry

Date you received water baptism in Jesus' name \_\_\_\_\_

Date you received the gift of the Holy Ghost \_\_\_\_\_

Date you began preaching \_\_\_\_\_

Date you began pastoring \_\_\_\_\_

Are you in accord with the doctrine taught by the PCAFI as follows? Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_\_

Have you ever been disfellowshipped from a church or organization? If yes, explain briefly:

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## Application for Membership with the PCAFI

11. Are you in accord with the doctrine taught by the PCAFI as follows?:

YES	NO	PCAFI DOCTRINE
		The new birth consists of believing the Gospel and being born of water (Baptism in the name of Jesus by immersion) and born of the Spirit (Infilling of the Holy Ghost with the initial evidence of speaking in tongues as the Spirit of God gives utterance).
		The Bible is the Word of God.
		Holiness is the standard of God for the believers' life.
		Jesus is Father, Son, Holy Ghost and three being the fullness of the one God who is manifested in Jesus Christ.
		The doctrine of the Trinity (i.e., three separate distinct persons in the Godhead) is not biblical.
		Jesus Christ died as our Savior, and was buried, and arose from the grave three days and three nights later with all power in heaven and earth in His hands.
		Jesus Christ will return for His church by appearing in the air on the clouds to "catch away" (rapture) the church.

12. Are you willing to submit yourself and your church to the teachings of the PCAFI and be obedient to its leadership as it is fit in the Lord?

YES \_\_\_\_\_ NO \_\_\_\_\_

YOUR SIGNATURE \_\_\_\_\_

DATE \_\_\_\_\_



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headquarters@pcafintl.org  
502-778-7948