Electronic Press Kit



International Missions Safety and Emergency Preparedness Initiative

2026

A briefing for U.S. Department of State and congressional offices on resources, relationships, and coordination supporting international missions safety and preparedness.

50 diocesan assignments | 47 named bishops | 3 vacancies

Serving churches and communities across Africa, Asia, Europe, the Caribbean, the Americas, and the South Pacific.

International Missions Department Suffragan Bishop Jeffrey S. Akers, President

Blue underlined text and blue outlined portraits are clickable.

PAW Board of Bishops | IMD administration | PAW Website | PAW Missions History

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Who We Are

The Pentecostal Assemblies of the World, Inc. (PAW) is an Apostolic Pentecostal fellowship. PAW connects churches and leaders through Gospel ministry, biblical instruction, leadership development, and community service. Its International Missions Department supports discipleship alongside education, humanitarian assistance, disaster relief, medical outreach, and sustainable local ministry.

PAW heritage

1906 PAW dates its institutional history to 1906.

1919 IMD identifies this year as the establishment of its department.

1931 IMD traces its longstanding educational work in Liberia to this period, including Haywood Mission Institute.

2018 to 2026 Bishop Kandy Akers served as IMD president and chairman.

2026 Bishop Richard D. Howell Jr. serves as Presiding Prelate; Suffragan Bishop Jeffrey S. Akers serves as IMD President.

Departmental leadership and government coordination

Suffragan Bishop Jeffrey S. Akers
President of the International Missions Department

Suffragan Bishop Walter R. Oliver Jr.
Second Vice President and Missions Ambassador for International Travel
Government coordination point of contact

Oliver office: (203) 562-3906 | ebenezer@ebenezerchapel.info

Office correspondence via Ebenezer Chapel
50 Dwight Street, New Haven, CT 06511

Organizational contacts

International Missions Department
pawmissions@gmail.com | www.pawimd.com

PAW Headquarters
3939 N. Meadows Drive, Indianapolis, IN 46205 USA

(317) 547-9541 | www.pawinc.org

PAW history | PAW officials | IMD administration | Oliver office contact

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Our mission and purpose around the world

The International Missions Department of the Pentecostal Assemblies of the World advances the Gospel of Jesus Christ through relationships, education, and leadership. Our primary purpose is grounded in the Great Commission and expressed through sustained service with churches and communities around the world.

“Go ye therefore, and teach all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost.”
Matthew 28:19 KJV

Relationships

Our first objective is to establish and strengthen relationships with local churches, pastors, ministry leaders, and communities. These relationships create a foundation for trust, mutual support, and continuing ministry across global and cultural boundaries.

“For we are labourers together with God.”
1 Corinthians 3:9 KJV

Education

Our second objective is to preach and teach the Gospel. Through biblical instruction, discipleship, and Christian education, we encourage faith in Jesus Christ and the practice of integrity, compassion, service, and responsibility. This work seeks to strengthen the moral and spiritual life of individuals, families, and communities globally.

“Teaching them to observe all things whatsoever I have commanded you.”
Matthew 28:20 KJV

Leadership

Our third objective is to assist leadership advancement. We support the development of pastors and ministry leaders through teaching, mentoring, and cooperation so they can serve their communities and equip others for lasting local ministry.

“The same commit thou to faithful men, who shall be able to teach others also.”
2 Timothy 2:2 KJV

For over 100 years, the Pentecostal Assemblies of the World Inc. and missionary leaders have witnessed tens of thousands of souls receiving salvation, education and empowerment through its international missions efforts. The department continues to connect Gospel ministry with Christian character, compassionate service, and leadership development.

IMD mission and heritage

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Bishop Richard D. Howell Jr.



PRESIDING PRELATE
Pentecostal Assemblies of the World Inc.

Bishop Richard D. Howell Jr. serves as Presiding Prelate of the Pentecostal Assemblies of the World and diocesan bishop of its seventh episcopal district, the Minnesota, Wisconsin, Dakotas District Council. He is senior pastor of Shiloh Temple International Ministries in Minneapolis, where he has led the congregation since 1980.

Born in Minneapolis, Bishop Howell grew up in the congregation founded in 1931 by his grandparents, Reverend Howard and Mattie Smith. His service developed through local church and district responsibilities, including youth leadership, council administration, and episcopal ministry. This background connects his denominational leadership with decades of pastoral care and service to families.

He earned a bachelor's degree in pastoral studies from North Central Bible College, graduating magna cum laude in 1980, and a master's degree in counseling psychology from the University of St. Thomas. His experience also includes governmental management and Job Corps work, where he mentored young people and supported workplace preparation.

Internationally, Bishop Howell has participated in church planting and missions travel across Africa, Eastern Europe, Asia, and Central America. His ministry brings together biblical teaching, leadership development, counseling, and opportunities for young people to encounter and serve communities beyond their own.

His civic service includes work with community organizations and public officials on education, civil rights, and social concerns. Minneapolis recognized his service through a city resolution in 2016. He received Minnesota's first John Lewis Justice Award in 2020 and joined the mayor's police chief search committee in 2022.

Bishop Howell is the author of Possessors of the Kingdom and Faith in Action and co-author of The Eden Experience. He serves alongside his wife, Pastor Bettye Howell, Shiloh's co-pastor and chief executive officer. Their family includes two adult children and seven grandchildren.

Official PAW biography | Shiloh Temple biography | Shiloh pastoral history

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PAW executive leadership

The assistant presiding bishops support the Presiding Prelate in guiding the fellowship and its international diocesan ministry.



Open bio

Bishop A. Glenn Brady

FIRST ASSISTANT PRESIDING BISHOP | DISTRICT 46 | HAWAII

Bishop Brady has pastored New Bethel Church in Kansas City, Kansas, since June 2009. His experience includes leadership development, community outreach, business studies, and prior service as general secretary. He entered the bishopric and received the Hawaii assignment in 2013.

Ministry focus Executive leadership, ministerial development, and diocesan oversight.

First Assistant Presiding Bishop elected in July 2026.

Biography and ministry | Photograph | PAW assignment



Open bio

Bishop C. Shawn Tyson

SECOND ASSISTANT PRESIDING BISHOP | DISTRICT 76 | BAJA CALIFORNIA SUR

Bishop Tyson serves as senior pastor of Mt. Calvary Pentecostal Church in Youngstown and overseer of Christ Church Apostolic in Indianapolis. His ministry includes international evangelism, worship, teaching, and mentoring. He became diocesan bishop of Baja California Sur in 2023.

Ministry focus Executive leadership, pastoral development, and international evangelism.

Second Assistant Presiding Bishop elevated in 2026.

Biography and ministry | Photograph | PAW assignment

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International Missions Department leadership

The president and vice presidents guide departmental ministry, administration, and international partnerships.



Open bio

Suffragan Bishop Jeffrey S. Akers

PRESIDENT | INTERNATIONAL MISSIONS DEPARTMENT

Suffragan Bishop Akers serves as senior pastor of I Am Church in Greenville, South Carolina, and founder of I Am Changed, a nonprofit ministry. His work includes evangelism, ministry development, fundraising, and the building of sustainable international partnerships.

Ministry focus Presidential oversight of the department and direction of the International Missions Safety and Emergency Preparedness Initiative.

Read the full biography here

Biography and ministry | Photograph



Open bio

District Elder Rolania Usher

FIRST VICE PRESIDENT AND ADMINISTRATOR

Usher brings experience in operational planning, fundraising, budgeting, financial administration, coordination, and organizational management to the department.

Ministry focus Administrative coordination and operational support for the international missions program.

Biography and ministry | Photograph



Open bio

Suffragan Bishop Walter R. Oliver Jr.

SECOND VICE PRESIDENT | MISSIONS AMBASSADOR FOR INTERNATIONAL TRAVEL

Oliver is pastor of Ebenezer Chapel in New Haven, Connecticut, and founder of Elm City Development Corporation, an affordable housing nonprofit. His preparation includes communications and theology.

Ministry focus Departmental vice presidential service and liaison responsibilities for the missions safety and preparedness initiative.

Read the full biography here

Biography and ministry | Photograph

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International missions safety and preparedness

Why a coordinated approach is needed

A medical emergency, civil unrest, natural disaster, detention, or transportation shutdown can leave a traveler and PAW leadership searching for reliable contacts and information at the worst possible time. Established relationships and access to current resources can help mission leaders understand which government channels are available and communicate effectively when an urgent need arises.

PAW's international ministry connects bishops, pastors, missionaries, and local partners across national boundaries. Disruptions may affect both traveling mission workers and the churches, educational work, and communities they serve. IMD's history describes the effects of Liberia's civil war on educational mission facilities, illustrating the importance of preparedness and continuity.

Mission liaison and government coordination

Suffragan Bishop Walter R. Oliver Jr., IMD Second Vice President and Missions Ambassador for International Travel, serves as the department's liaison for this initiative under the direction of the IMD President. His role connects PAW leadership with appropriate government offices to explain mission field needs, seek relevant safety information, and develop reliable communication channels.

The initiative seeks relationships with U.S. Department of State personnel, congressional offices, American embassies, and consulates. We welcome guidance on the appropriate contacts, established traveler resources, and information needed to communicate a concern effectively.

Information that supports preparedness

Clear information about available resources can help mission leaders understand destination conditions, consular services, citizenship considerations, and the scope of assistance during an emergency. We seek to use established channels and to understand their requirements and limitations.

Continuity of international ministry

Preparedness supports the wellbeing of mission workers and the continuity of local ministry. Informed relationships and timely communication can help PAW and its international partners respond responsibly when travel or community conditions change.

IMD administration | IMD history | State Department help abroad

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Resources and coordination requested

PAW and its International Missions Department seek information about existing government resources that can strengthen international missions safety, traveler preparedness, and emergency communication.

Appropriate government points of contact

We request guidance on the relevant Department of State, embassy, consular, and congressional contacts for international traveler questions and urgent concerns. A clear understanding of these channels would help us direct inquiries to the appropriate office.

Traveler education and preparedness resources

We welcome available guidance, publications, briefings, and training resources that PAW can use to better prepare its mission teams. Areas of interest include destination information, travel advisories, STEP enrollment information, and resources suited to the needs of international religious and humanitarian travelers.

Emergency information and communication

We seek guidance on what information government offices require when a traveler is missing, detained, injured, or in immediate danger; which channels should receive that information; and how an authorized PAW liaison can communicate verified facts efficiently.

Crisis assistance and available support

We request information on the services and assistance that may be available during a crisis, including eligibility, practical limitations, possible costs, and coordination with the appropriate national consular authorities when travelers have different citizenships.

Continuing information exchange

We welcome an appropriate process for receiving current resources, identifying relevant briefings, and maintaining contact with the offices responsible for these matters. Our goal is to keep mission leadership informed and connected to established sources of assistance.

State Department international travel | STEP

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International diocesan directory index

Select any blue underlined district, council, or bishop to open its profile. Blue outlined portraits and Open bio links open biography or ministry information. Leadership assignments as of October 21 2026.

District	Council or jurisdiction	Bishop
31A	European Council of Nations (East)	Michael D. Franklin
31B	European Council of Nations (West)	C. Wayne Brantley
32A	India District Council (A)	Ameeth Evans
32B	India District Council (B)	Immanuel Paul
33	Eastern Nigeria District Council	Maxwell Akpan
34	Sierra Leone District Council	Mona Reide
35	Liberia District Council	Leo Simpson
36	Eastern Caribbean Council of Nations	Derrick Farmer
37	Jamaica District Council	Edgar L. Usher
38	Haiti District Council	Joseph S. Montinor
39	Bahamas District Council	Anthony Farrington Sr.
40	Egypt District Council	Vacant
41	Ghana District Council	Gary Harper
42	Togo District Council	Vacant
43	South Pacific District Council	Tutai Pere
44	Zimbabwe District Council	Errol O'Savio
45	Southern Philippines District Council	Arden L. Luster Sr.
47	Kenya District Council	Kevin M. Harrison
48	Brazil District Council	Lourenco Vieira
49	Gauteng Province South Africa Council	Yolanda Hunt
50	Nigeria West Africa District Council	Cecil E. Golder Jr.
51	Northern Philippines District Council	Michael Bender
52	Far East District Council	Prentis Vasco Johnson Sr.
53	Cameroon District Council	Vacant
54	Dominican Republic District Council	Rader Johnson

Current PAW roster

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International diocesan directory index continued

Select any blue underlined district, council, or bishop to open its profile. Blue outlined portraits and Open bio links open biography or ministry information. Leadership assignments as of October 21 2026.

District	Council or jurisdiction	Bishop
55	Canada District Council	Barrington E. Smith
57	Baja / California / Mexico District Council	Leroy Horne
59	Venezuela District Council	Brian T. Hamilton
60	Western Cape South Africa District Council	Jeffrey Smith
62	Uganda Africa District Council	Derek G. Pierson
63	Santo Domingo District Council	Melvin Brown
64	Eastern Cape South Africa District Council	Darrell W. Cummings
65	Mpumalanga Province South Africa District Council	Fredrick Jeremy Jackson
68	Puerto Rico District Council	Gregory S. Irvin
69	Tanzania District Council	Arthur Fletcher
70	KwaZulu-Natal Province District Council	Stephen Zondo
71	Northern Kenya District Council	Paul Karanja Mbuthia
72	Belize District Council	Lafayette Boyd
73	Costa Rica District Council	Avery Burrel
74	Colombia District Council	Stephen Foster
75	Baja California North	Robert Buckner
76	Baja California Sur	C. Shawn Tyson
77	Tamaulipas District Council	Leon Parker
78	Guanajuato District Council	Carlton Burrel
79	Costa Rica Atlantic Zone	Craig S. High, D.R.E.
80	Pakistan District Council	Phillip N. Johnson
81	Panama District Council	James P. Miller
82	Peru District Council	Jon L. Slaughter
83	São Paulo Brazil District Council	David E. Johnson
84	Nayarit Mexico District Council	Kandy Akers

Current PAW roster

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International diocesan leadership

Districts 31A, 31B



Open bio

Bishop Michael D. Franklin

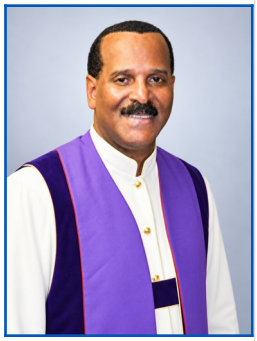
DISTRICT 31A | European Council of Nations (East)
Germany, Italy & Eastern Europe

Bishop Michael D. Franklin leads the European Council of Nations East. Previously a suffragan bishop in the European council, he entered the bishopric when the European work was divided into eastern and western jurisdictions in August 2009. His published mission emphasizes Gospel ministry, education, and the development of believers.

Ministry focus Evangelism, Christian education, and support for churches in Germany, Italy, and Eastern Europe.

Diocesan leadership from August 2009.

Biography and ministry | Photograph | PAW assignment



Open bio

Bishop C. Wayne Brantley

DISTRICT 31B | European Council of Nations (West)
United Kingdom, Ireland, France, Belgium

Bishop C. Wayne Brantley pastors Zion Pentecostal Church of Christ in Cleveland, Ohio. His ministry includes youth leadership, international evangelism, broadcasting, and community development. He became pastor at Zion in 2004 and was elevated to the bishopric on August 13, 2009.

Ministry focus Pastoral oversight across the United Kingdom, Ireland, France, and Belgium; evangelism and leadership development.

Bishopric from August 13, 2009.

Biography and ministry | Photograph | PAW assignment

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International diocesan leadership

Districts 32A, 32B



Open bio

Bishop Ameeth Evans

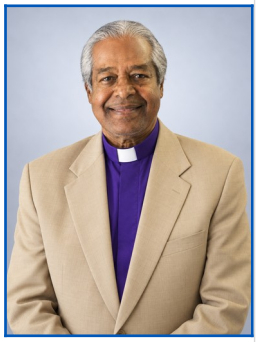
DISTRICT 32A | India District Council (A)
India

Bishop Ameeth Evans is the third-generation leader of Bible Believers Association in India. The ministry traces its founding to A. N. Jonah in 1945 and subsequent leadership to Bishop Daniel Evans. Its account places Ameeth Evans's leadership in 2020, with attention to younger generations and practical community service.

Ministry focus Education, healthcare, children's and widows' support, women's empowerment, and clean water initiatives.

Bible Believers Association leadership from 2020.

Biography and ministry | Photograph | PAW assignment



Open bio

Bishop Immanuel Paul

DISTRICT 32B | India District Council (B)
India

Bishop Immanuel Paul leads India District Council B. His ministry combines church development with compassionate service, including support for housing, transportation, people affected by leprosy, orphans, and widows.

Ministry focus church and housing projects, transport, leprosy support, orphan sponsorship, and care for widows.

Biography and ministry | Photograph | PAW assignment

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International diocesan leadership

Districts 33, 34



Open bio

Bishop Maxwell Akpan

DISTRICT 33 | Eastern Nigeria District Council
Nigeria (East)

Bishop Maxwell Akpan leads the Eastern Nigeria District Council. He provides episcopal leadership for the jurisdiction and coordinates its churches within PAW's international fellowship.

Ministry focus Regional church leadership and coordination through the Eastern Nigeria council.

Biography and ministry | Official assignment | PAW assignment



Open bio

Bishop Mona Reide

DISTRICT 34 | Sierra Leone District Council
Sierra Leone

Bishop Mona Reide serves as diocesan bishop and board chair of the Sierra Leone Council. The council's work includes education, outreach, youth ministry, and community programs. She previously served as IMD chairman from 2005 to 2014.

Ministry focus Council schools, a water project, a resource center, library services, and outreach.

IMD chairmanship from 2005 to 2014.

Biography and ministry | Photograph | PAW assignment

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International diocesan leadership

Districts 35, 36, 37



Open bio

Bishop Leo Simpson

DISTRICT 35 | Liberia District Council
Liberia

Bishop Leo Simpson is a Liberian educator and diocesan leader. IMD identifies him as administrator and principal of Haywood Mission Institute and as administrator of other PAW properties in Liberia. His wife, Dr. Myra Simpson, has worked alongside him in educational leadership.

Ministry focus Christian education, school administration, campus development, and support for PAW's educational properties in Liberia.

Biography and ministry | Photograph | PAW assignment



Open bio

Bishop Derrick Farmer

DISTRICT 36 | Eastern Caribbean Council of Nations
Eastern Caribbean / Barbados

Bishop Derrick Farmer has pastored Christ Pentecostal Temple in Queens, New York, since August 10, 2004. His ministry includes PAW evangelism, New York council administration, community outreach, and longstanding service with the Eastern Caribbean council.

Ministry focus Regional pastoral leadership, evangelism, and community outreach across the Eastern Caribbean.

Christ Pentecostal Temple pastorate from August 10, 2004.

Biography and ministry | Photograph | PAW assignment



Open bio

Bishop Edgar L. Usher

DISTRICT 37 | Jamaica District Council
Jamaica

Bishop Edgar L. Usher pastors The Ship of Praise Church in Houston, Texas. His background includes Texas and international youth leadership, music ministry, worship training, and mentoring. He is the founder of Ushered in Mentoring Moments, which supports young men.

Ministry focus Jamaica council leadership, Gospel ministry, music and worship development, and mentoring.

Biography and ministry | Photograph | PAW assignment

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International diocesan leadership

Districts 38, 39, 41



Open bio

Bishop Joseph S. Montinor

DISTRICT 38 | Haiti District Council
Haiti

Bishop Joseph S. Montinor leads the Haiti District Council. His ministry brings together building, teaching, and preaching in service to people in need, while supporting the development of local churches.

Ministry focus Pastoral leadership, Christian teaching, evangelism, and support for local ministry in Haiti.

Biography and ministry | Photograph | PAW assignment



PAW listing

Bishop Anthony Farrington Sr.

DISTRICT 39 | Bahamas District Council
Bahamas

Bishop Anthony Farrington Sr. leads the Bahamas and Turks and Caicos Islands Council. A civil and structural engineer as well as a teacher and preacher, he succeeded his father, Bishop Ellis J. Farrington. He and his wife founded EZRA GLOBAL to support education and economic opportunity.

Ministry focus Church leadership, educational assistance, philanthropy, and ministry development across the council.

Official PAW listing | Photograph | PAW assignment



Open bio

Bishop Gary Harper

DISTRICT 41 | Ghana District Council
Ghana

Bishop Gary Harper has led the Ghana diocese since 2011. He works with local churches and stateside supporters to strengthen pastoral training, council governance, and ministerial collaboration. His home ministry is Greater Grace Temple in Taylor, Michigan.

Ministry focus Pastor training, council organization, ministerial support, and church and children's ministry construction projects.

Ghana diocesan assignment from 2011.

Biography and ministry | Photograph | PAW assignment

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International diocesan leadership

Districts 43, 44, 45



Open bio

Bishop Tutai Pere

DISTRICT 43 | South Pacific District Council
Fiji, Cook Islands, New Zealand, Australia

Bishop Tutai Pere leads the South Pacific District Council, serving Fiji, the Cook Islands, New Zealand, and Australia. The council brings churches together for biblical teaching, preaching, worship, fellowship, and shared ministry leadership.

Ministry focus Regional church cooperation, teaching, worship gatherings, and pastoral fellowship throughout the South Pacific.

Biography and ministry | Photograph | PAW assignment



Open bio

Bishop Errol O'Savio

DISTRICT 44 | Zimbabwe District Council
Zimbabwe

Bishop Errol O'Savio leads the Zimbabwe District Council. His work centers on extending Gospel ministry, strengthening local churches, and connecting willing workers and resources with the council's continuing ministry.

Ministry focus Evangelism, support for local churches, ministry partnerships, and mobilization of workers and resources.

Biography and ministry | Photograph | PAW assignment



Open bio

Bishop Arden L. Luster Sr.

DISTRICT 45 | Southern Philippines District Council
Philippines (South)

Bishop Arden L. Luster Sr. is the diocesan bishop of the Southern Philippines District Council and a longtime pastor of BrideGroom Apostolic Church in Jacksonville, Florida. His experience includes service in Christian education, music, youth work, administration, and Florida council leadership.

Ministry focus Pastoral development, Christian education, council organization, and support for Southern Philippine churches.

Biography and ministry | Photograph | PAW assignment

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International diocesan leadership

Districts 47, 48, 49



Open bio

Bishop Kevin M. Harrison

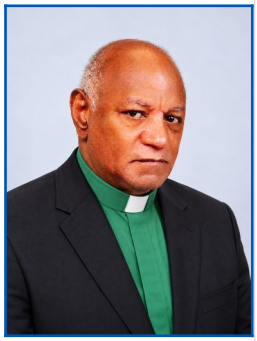
DISTRICT 47 | Kenya District Council
Kenya

Bishop Kevin M. Harrison's pastoral service includes ministries in Georgia, Michigan, and Indiana. He became pastor of Grace Apostolic Church in Indianapolis in February 2014. His background includes leadership training and the founding of the Southeastern Michigan Apostolic Bible Institute in 2011.

Ministry focus Pastoral oversight in Kenya, ministerial education, leadership training, and church development.

Grace Apostolic Church appointment in February 2014.

Biography and ministry | Photograph | PAW assignment



Open bio

Bishop Lourenco Vieira

DISTRICT 48 | Brazil District Council
Brazil

Bishop Lourenco Vieira leads the Brazil District Council. His ministry connects mission participants with Brazilian churches and communities, creating opportunities for Gospel outreach, local church partnerships, and practical service.

Ministry focus Gospel ministry, church partnerships, and opportunities for mission service and community outreach in Brazil.

Biography and ministry | Photograph | PAW assignment



Open bio

Bishop Yolanda Hunt

DISTRICT 49 | Gauteng Province South Africa Council
South Africa (Gauteng)

Bishop Yolanda Hunt leads the Gauteng Province District Council. Her ministry background includes leadership at Rehoboth, youth development, church administration, school partnerships, support for shelters, and annual community outreach.

Ministry focus Pastoral leadership, mentoring, education partnerships, and community outreach.

Biography and ministry | Photograph | PAW assignment

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International diocesan leadership

Districts 50, 51, 52



PAW listing

Bishop Cecil E. Golder Jr.

DISTRICT 50 | Nigeria West Africa District Council
Nigeria (West)

Bishop Cecil E. Golder Jr. pastors New Bethel Tabernacle in South Bend, Indiana, and leads the Nigeria West Africa council. His ministry includes local and council service, chaplaincy training, and work with the International Men's Ministry Auxiliary.

Ministry focus Pastoral leadership, ministry training, chaplaincy, and coordination of the Nigeria West Africa council.

Official PAW listing | Photograph | PAW assignment



Open bio

Bishop Michael Bender

DISTRICT 51 | Northern Philippines District Council
Philippines (North)

Bishop Michael Bender leads the Northern Philippines District Council. He also serves as senior pastor of Faith Apostolic Church in Alabama, with congregations in Birmingham, Tuscaloosa, and Huntsville. His ministry centers on prayer, biblical teaching, worship, and the development of believers.

Ministry focus Pastoral leadership and support for the Northern Philippines council; discipleship and Christian teaching.

Biography and ministry | Photograph | PAW assignment



Open bio

Bishop Prentis Vasco Johnson Sr.

DISTRICT 52 | Far East District Council
Far East / Japan

Bishop Prentis Vasco Johnson Sr. has pastored Greater Christ Temple Church in Tacoma, Washington, since 2008. His preparation includes business administration, theology, and organizational leadership. He helped establish Agape Bible College in 2017 and has served in men's ministry, mentoring, and community organizations.

Ministry focus Far East council leadership, biblical education, mentoring, and pastoral development.

Greater Christ Temple pastorate from 2008.

Biography and ministry | Photograph | PAW assignment

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International diocesan leadership

Districts 54, 55, 57



Open bio

Bishop Rader Johnson

DISTRICT 54 | Dominican Republic District Council
Dominican Republic

Bishop Rader Johnson founded Greater Bible Way Temple in Bay City, Michigan, in 1998 and became pastor of Greater Bethel Temple in Louisville, Kentucky, in 2016. His IMD biography records theological and Christian education studies, teaching ministry, and earlier suffragan service in the Dominican Republic.

Ministry focus Pastoral teaching, evangelism, clothing assistance, and support for basic community needs.

Dominican Republic suffragan service from 2016; Greater Bethel pastorate from September 2016.

Biography and ministry | Photograph | PAW assignment



Open bio

Bishop Barrington E. Smith

DISTRICT 55 | Canada District Council
Canada

Bishop Barrington E. Smith is founder and senior pastor of Kingdom Life Ministries in the Greater Toronto Area, established in December 1999. His council biography describes evangelism, biblical teaching, counseling, and international ministry, including support for orphanages in Kenya.

Ministry focus Canada council leadership, pastoral development, Christian education, and international humanitarian partnerships.

Kingdom Life Ministries established in December 1999.

Biography and ministry | Photograph | PAW assignment



Open bio

Bishop Leroy Horne

DISTRICT 57 | Baja / California / Mexico District Council
Mexico (Baja California)

Bishop Leroy Horne leads the Baja California Mexico District Council. He provides episcopal oversight, supports local churches, and coordinates the council's participation in PAW's international fellowship.

Ministry focus Local church support and episcopal coordination within the Baja California Mexico council.

Biography and ministry | Photograph | PAW assignment

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International diocesan leadership

Districts 59, 60, 62



Open bio

Bishop Brian T. Hamilton

DISTRICT 59 | Venezuela District Council
Venezuela

Bishop Brian T. Hamilton accepted his call to ministry in 1995. In September 2004 he succeeded Suffragan Bishop Howard Collier as pastor of the congregation now known as Transformed Life Church in Piqua, Ohio. PAW lists him as diocesan bishop of Venezuela.

Ministry focus Pastoral teaching, leadership development, and support for the Venezuelan council.

Transformed Life Church pastoral succession in September 2004.

Biography and ministry | Photograph | PAW assignment



Open bio

Bishop Jeffrey Smith

DISTRICT 60 | Western Cape South Africa District Council
South Africa (Western Cape)

Bishop Jeffrey Smith became pastor of Christ Temple Apostolic Church in Minnesota in October 2011, after serving as assistant pastor from 2001. His biography describes ministry, accounting, and organizational leadership. His suffragan appointment to South African work is recorded in 2019.

Ministry focus Western Cape council leadership, pastoral development, teaching, and community partnerships.

Christ Temple pastorate from October 2011; South African suffragan service from 2019.

Biography and ministry | Photograph | PAW assignment



Open bio

Bishop Derek G. Pierson

DISTRICT 62 | Uganda Africa District Council
Uganda

Bishop Derek G. Pierson has served as senior pastor of Holy Lighthouse Church in New Rochelle, New York, since 1997 and leads the Uganda council. His work includes pastoral ministry, Christian counseling, life coaching, and leadership of Selah Ministries.

Ministry focus Pastoral leadership, Christian counseling, teaching, and support for the Uganda council.

Holy Lighthouse Church pastorate from 1997.

Biography and ministry | Photograph | PAW assignment

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International diocesan leadership

Districts 63, 64, 65



Open bio

Bishop Melvin Brown

DISTRICT 63 | Santo Domingo District Council
Dominican Republic (Santo Domingo)

Bishop Melvin Brown leads the Santo Domingo District Council in the Dominican Republic. IMD describes land acquired for church and medical clinic development and reports a La Romana church community with a primary school and conferences for pastors, families, and local communities.

Ministry focus Church and clinic development, Christian education, pastoral conferences, and school support.

Biography and ministry | Photograph | PAW assignment



Open bio

Bishop Darrell W. Cummings

DISTRICT 64 | Eastern Cape South Africa District Council
South Africa (Eastern Cape)

Bishop Darrell W. Cummings leads the Eastern Cape South Africa District Council. The council strengthens churches, equips leaders, and serves communities through church partnerships, mission teams, feeding ministry, and other local programs.

Ministry focus Leadership development, church support, mission teams, feeding ministry, and community service.

Biography and ministry | Photograph | PAW assignment



Open bio

Bishop Fredrick Jeremy Jackson

DISTRICT 65 | Mpumalanga Province South Africa District Council
South Africa (Mpumalanga)

Bishop Fredrick Jeremy Jackson began preaching in 1993 and was ordained in 2002. His ministry includes Christian education, youth leadership, community program grants, and pastoral service at Greater Grace Apostolic Church and Christ Church of Deliverance in Connecticut.

Ministry focus Mpumalanga council leadership, biblical teaching, leadership training, and community program development.

Ordination in October 2002; Greater Grace pastorate from 2006.

Biography and ministry | Photograph | PAW assignment

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International diocesan leadership

Districts 68, 69, 70



Open bio

Bishop Gregory S. Irvin

DISTRICT 68 | Puerto Rico District Council
Puerto Rico

Bishop Gregory S. Irvin is a pastor, teacher, and international missions leader whose service includes Bethesda Apostolic Church in Urbana, Ohio. He served as IMD chairman from 2014 to 2018. His Puerto Rico ministry includes church partnerships and hurricane recovery work.

Ministry focus Pastoral support, church development, and assistance to congregations affected by hurricane damage.

IMD chairmanship from 2014 to 2018.

Biography and ministry | Photograph | PAW assignment



Open bio

Bishop Arthur Fletcher

DISTRICT 69 | Tanzania District Council
Tanzania

Bishop Arthur Fletcher leads the Tanzania District Council. His ministry includes evangelism, baptism services, pastoral support, and council development. IMD's account of a 2019 outreach campaign reports 483 baptisms over six weeks.

Ministry focus Evangelism, baptism services, pastoral support, and development of the Tanzania council.

Biography and ministry | Photograph | PAW assignment



Open site

Bishop Stephen Zondo

DISTRICT 70 | KwaZulu-Natal Province District Council
South Africa (KwaZulu-Natal)

Bishop Stephen Zondo leads the KwaZulu Natal Province District Council. He is founder and general overseer of Rivers of Living Waters Ministries in South Africa, with ministry in teaching, communications, community service, and humanitarian outreach.

Ministry focus Church leadership, biblical ministry, community service, and humanitarian projects.

Ministry website | Photograph | PAW assignment

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International diocesan leadership

Districts 71, 72, 73



Open bio

Bishop Paul Karanja Mbuthia

DISTRICT 71 | Northern Kenya District Council
Kenya (North)

Bishop Paul Karanja Mbuthia leads the Northern Kenya District Council. His work focuses on sharing the Gospel, strengthening local ministry, and connecting support with the needs and projects of the council.

Ministry focus Gospel outreach, pastoral leadership, and support for Northern Kenyan ministry needs.

Biography and ministry | Photograph | PAW assignment



Open bio

Bishop Lafayette Boyd

DISTRICT 72 | Belize District Council
Belize

Bishop Lafayette Boyd and Elect Lady Ernese Boyd lead the Belize council's mission work. The council's own account describes a long partnership with Belizean communities, with Lady Boyd bringing firsthand knowledge of the country and its needs. Their ministry combines evangelism with practical assistance.

Ministry focus Community aid, mission partnerships, Gospel ministry, and support for Belizean churches.

Biography and ministry | Photograph | PAW assignment



Open bio

Bishop Avery Burrel

DISTRICT 73 | Costa Rica District Council
Costa Rica

Bishop Avery Burrel leads the Costa Rica District Council. His ministry includes collaboration with local pastors on church construction and the development of sustainable local ministry.

Ministry focus Pastoral cooperation, church construction, and local ministry development.

Biography and ministry | Photograph | PAW assignment

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International diocesan leadership

Districts 74, 75, 76



Open bio

Bishop Stephen Foster

DISTRICT 74 | Colombia District Council
Colombia

Bishop Stephen Foster leads the Colombia District Council and is founder of Released Ministries International. His ministry includes international evangelism, leadership development, mentoring, counseling, and biblical teaching.

Ministry focus International evangelism, biblical teaching, leadership development, and pastoral mentoring.

Biography and ministry | Photograph | PAW assignment



Open bio

Bishop Robert Buckner

DISTRICT 75 | Baja California North
Mexico (Baja California Norte)

Bishop Robert Buckner founded Living Word Apostolic Church in 1987 after serving as a PAW national evangelist. His IMD biography records studies in communications and theology, as well as the founding of a youth program addressing drug use and violence.

Ministry focus Baja California North church leadership, evangelism, youth development, and community outreach.

Living Word Apostolic Church founded in 1987.

Biography and ministry | Photograph | PAW assignment



Open bio

Bishop C. Shawn Tyson

DISTRICT 76 | Baja California Sur
Mexico (Baja California Sur)

Bishop C. Shawn Tyson is PAW's Second Assistant Presiding Bishop and diocesan bishop of Baja California Sur. His current PAW biography identifies him as senior pastor of Mt. Calvary Pentecostal Church in Youngstown and overseer of Christ Church Apostolic in Indianapolis. His ministry includes international evangelism, teaching, and mentoring.

Ministry focus Executive church leadership, pastoral development, evangelism, and support for Baja California Sur.

Baja California Sur bishop from 2023; Second Assistant Presiding Bishop from 2026.

Biography and ministry | Photograph | PAW assignment

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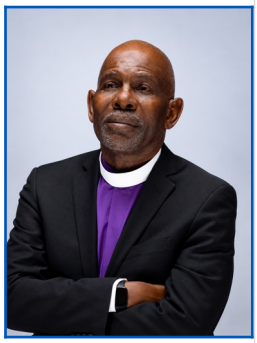
International diocesan leadership

Districts 77, 78, 79



Open bio

Bishop Leon Parker

DISTRICT 77 | Tamaulipas District Council
Mexico (Tamaulipas)

Bishop Leon Parker pastors Zion Apostolic Temple in Dallas, Texas. Its church account describes his assumption of pastoral leadership in 1984, subsequent ministry expansion, and theological studies. The current PAW roster assigns him to Tamaulipas, Mexico.

Ministry focus Pastoral teaching, church development, and episcopal support for the Tamaulipas council.

Zion pastoral leadership from 1984.

Biography and ministry | Photograph | PAW assignment



Open bio

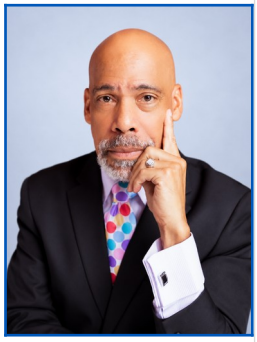
Bishop Carlton Burrel

DISTRICT 78 | Guanajuato District Council
Mexico (Guanajuato)

Bishop Carlton Burrel leads the Guanajuato District Council in Mexico. He provides pastoral oversight and supports church development, local ministry, and the council's participation in PAW's international fellowship.

Ministry focus Pastoral oversight and support for church and ministry development in Guanajuato.

Biography and ministry | Photograph | PAW assignment



Open bio

Bishop Craig S. High, D.R.E.

DISTRICT 79 | Costa Rica Atlantic Zone
Costa Rica (Atlantic Zone)

Bishop Craig S. High, D.R.E. leads the Costa Rica Atlantic Zone. IMD's profile describes a ministry team working on building construction and expansion of the diocese. The council's stated foundation is the Great Commission and the continuing spread of the Gospel.

Ministry focus Church construction, ministry expansion, pastoral cooperation, and Gospel outreach in the Atlantic Zone.

Biography and ministry | Photograph | PAW assignment

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International diocesan leadership

Districts 80, 81, 82



Open bio

Bishop Phillip N. Johnson

DISTRICT 80 | Pakistan District Council
Pakistan

Bishop Phillip N. Johnson is a pastor, teacher, author, and missionary whose ministry helped develop PAW's Pakistan work into the 80th Episcopal Diocese. His ministry combines evangelism with pastoral relationships, leadership training, humanitarian service, and the development of local ministry structures.

Ministry focus Evangelism, baptism services, pastor training, humanitarian outreach, and sustainable ministry infrastructure.

Biography and ministry | Photograph | PAW assignment



Open bio

Bishop James P. Miller

DISTRICT 81 | Panama District Council
Panama

Bishop James P. Miller is a pastor, educator, military veteran, and international missionary. Before his Panama assignment he served on the IMD board. His preparation includes communications, human resource management, public information, and pastoral care, alongside service in the United States Air Force.

Ministry focus Evangelism, pastor support, youth development, and planned community and feeding facilities in Panama.

Biography and ministry | Photograph | PAW assignment



Open bio

Bishop Jon L. Slaughter

DISTRICT 82 | Peru District Council
Peru

Bishop Jon L. Slaughter pastors Christ Temple Church in Lansing, Michigan. His background includes youth leadership, psychology, business administration, and PAW treasury operations. His Peru ministry emphasizes partnership with local pastors, family development, biblical teaching, and practical training, alongside Lady Jennifer Slaughter.

Ministry focus Leadership development, education, mentorship, pastoral training, and community partnerships.

Biography and ministry | Photograph | PAW assignment

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International diocesan leadership

Districts 83, 84



Open bio

Bishop David E. Johnson

DISTRICT 83 | São Paulo Brazil District Council
Brazil (São Paulo)

Bishop David E. Johnson is a Minnesota pastor and former IMD board member who leads the Sao Paulo Brazil District Council. His IMD profile describes more than two decades in ministry and a developing network of pastoral relationships, worship gatherings, and leadership collaboration in Brazil.

Ministry focus Church development, evangelism, pastoral connections, youth empowerment, and ministry partnership in Sao Paulo.

Biography and ministry | Photograph | PAW assignment



Open bio

Bishop Kandy Akers

DISTRICT 84 | Nayarit Mexico District Council
Mexico (Nayarit)

Bishop Kandy Akers pastors Living Water Apostolic Church in Marion, Indiana. She joined PAW missions work in 1998, joined its board in 2008, and led the IMD from 2018 through 2026. Her preparation includes management, organizational leadership, business administration, and education.

Ministry focus Leadership development, education, economic empowerment, youth ministry, and sustainable ministry planning.

IMD presidency from 2018 to 2026.

Biography and ministry | Photograph | PAW assignment

Dioceses listed as vacant

District 40 Egypt District Council | Egypt

District 42 Togo District Council | Togo

District 53 Cameroon District Council | Cameroon

Vacancies as published by PAW

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