

Request for Ordinations

Date: March 15, 2017

To: 2017 General Conference

Brothers and Sisters, we greet you in the name of our Lord, Redeemer and Savior, Jesus Christ.

Over the past year, we have diligently sought the will of the Lord for the names of men who are also called to the office of Apostle. We are able to bring to you four names for your consideration:

Kent Pedersen
Doug Patterson
Hugh Caldwell
Rex Curtis

We present these men to you with the testimony that their calls have been confirmed to us by revelation and wisdom through the Holy Spirit.

We request their names be presented to the General Conference for consideration and approval for ordination.

Your Servants in the Gospel,

Apostle Gary R. Whiting
Apostle Randy Vick

CONFERENCE REPORTS – Requests for Ordination

March 31, 2017

To the General Conference,

Brothers and Sisters, we greet you in the name of our Lord, Redeemer and Savior, Jesus Christ.

The Lord has been faithful to his covenants and has heard the prayers for workers in the field as Apostles. To the names previously submitted to the Conference for consideration for ordination to the office of Apostle (Kent Pedersen, Doug Patterson, Hugh Caldwell and Rex Curtis), we respectfully submit these additional names:

David Drummond
Patrick McKay

We present these men to you with the testimony that their calls have been confirmed to us by revelation and wisdom through the Holy Spirit.

We request that their names be presented to the General Conference for consideration and approval for ordination.

Your Servants in the Gospel,

Apostle Gary R. Whiting
Apostle Randy Vick

CONFERENCE REPORTS – Request for Setting Apart

To the Officers of the General Conference

The Council of the Presidents of Seventy and the First Quorum of Restoration Seventy have selected and approved Seventies Jim McKay and Dan Norman to serve on the Council of Presidents.

We request these men be presented to the General Conference for approval and if approved to order their setting apart as soon as possible that they may be permitted to sit in counsel with their brethren, the Presidents of Seventy during this 2017 General Conference.

Respectfully submitted,

Patrick McKay, Quorum President

First Quorum of Restoration Seventy

CONFERENCE REPORTS – Request for Approval of Ordinations

April 3, 2017

Mr. Fred Greene, President
JCRB General Conference

Re: High Priest calls

The quorum of high priests met in regular session on April 1, 2017 and considered calls to high priest. After prayer and due consideration, calls to high priest were approved for the following men:

Terry Chown
Joel Loving.

Both of these men have accepted these calls and both told me they would be ready to immediately begin their ministry, upon approval of the calls by the General Conference, and their ordination.

Respectfully submitted

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Robert A. Rolfe".

Robert A. Rolfe
President of the Quorum High Priests

CONFERENCE REPORTS – Request for Approval of Ordinations

April 6, 2017

To the General Conference Officers:

The Presidents of Seventy after a period of inquiry, discussion and prayer coupled with the spirit of wisdom and revelation present to the General Conference for approval to the office of Seventy the names of Brother's Kingsley Zacharias from Malawi, Rereao Foster from Tahiti and Mike Meir of Independence, MO.

If approved we request their ordinations be directed by the General Conference that they may take their place with their brethren in the First Quorum of Restoration Seventy.

Ronald Johnson

Quorum President

The First Quorum of Restoration Seventy

Minutes of the Mass Meeting of Melchisedec Priesthood

Minutes of the Mass Meeting of Melchisedec Priesthood
Thursday, April 6, 2017

Conference Vice President Dan Sherer called the meeting to order. The order of business of the mass meeting of Melchisedec priesthood was to nominate a candidate for president of the general conference of the Joint Conference of Restoration Branches.

Following prayers by Erwin Schnettler, Anando Rao and Chris Taylor, Vice President Sherer had secretary Alan Smith read the protocol for the meeting as it had been amended in the opening business session of the conference.

Apostle Gary Whiting read a statement to the priesthood from the Apostles on their view of the leadership for the conference under present circumstances (see attachment). Following the reading of the statement, Vice President Sherer asked Apostle Randy Vick to offer a prayer.

Nominations for president were opened and those nominated included Gary Whiting, Randy Vick (who withdrew his name from consideration), Ron Smith, Fred Greene and Sherman Phipps. Gary Whiting made a statement in response to the nomination.

When no person received a majority of the votes, another vote was taken between the top two vote getters from the first vote. Sherman Phipps received 28 votes to 20 for Fred Greene.

A final vote of acclamation that Sherman Phipps be the nominee from the mass meeting was made.

Prayers were then offered by brother Fred Greene, who serves as the president of the conference through the final business meeting, and brother Sherman Phipps, the new nominee from the mass meeting of Melchisedec priesthood.

Respectfully submitted,
H. Alan Smith
Conference Secretary

Minutes of the Mass Meeting of Melchisedec Priesthood

On the Question of the President of the JCRB and the Apostles

April 5, 2017

With the approach of the Mass Meeting of the Elders of the JCRB to make a nomination for President to the body of the General Conference, the topic of this selection process was discussed among the Apostles (Gary Whiting and Randy Vick) and the six Seventies who have pending calls to the office of Apostle (Kent Pedersen, Doug Patterson, Hugh Caldwell, Rex Curtis, David Drummond and Patrick McKay).

We understand that there is an elevated sense of anticipation among the participants in the 2017 General Conference regarding the ministry of the Apostles. There are some items we feel are important for the elders, delegates and voting members of the General Conference to consider before voting to place an apostle in the role of the President of the JCRB at this time.

1. There is no organized Quorum of Apostles at this point. Two ordained Apostles are not a sufficient number to organize a quorum of apostles.
2. We are confident that the men who are called to be Apostles will achieve General Conference approval and be ordained, but it has not yet taken place.
3. Assuming all of the called men are ordained, they need to meet and formally organize as a Quorum. This must be at some time after the ordinations take place.
4. After the Quorum is organized it will have sufficient numbers to function as a quorum, but it will not be full. A full quorum consists of 12 ordained Apostles.

The distinction between a quorum at sufficiency (greater than 6 members) and a quorum that is full (12 members) is important in view of the counsel of the Lord given through Brother Greene to the General Conference of 2016. In that counsel the Lord said,

When the Quorum is filled, the Presidency of the JCRB shall reside in the Twelve.
This shall constitute the standing Presidency of the JCRB for the current time.

The Quorum is not now filled, it is in fact, not organized and cannot be until after this General Conference has concluded. In our view, this means the provision to use the Quorum of Apostles as a standing presidency cannot be implemented at this conference. If the Quorum is filled by the General Conference of 2018, then this provision may be implemented, if it is the will of the body that this is the case.

Scripture defines the particular and unique duties of the Apostles:

The twelve traveling councilors are called to be the Twelve Apostles, or special witnesses of the name of Christ, in all the world; thus differing from other officers in the church in the duties of their calling (D&C 104:11c).

Minutes of the Mass Meeting of Melchisedec Priesthood

The Twelve are a traveling, presiding high council, to officiate in the name of the Lord, under the direction of the Presidency of the church, agreeably to the institution of heaven, to build up the church and regulate all the affairs of the same, in all nations; first unto the Gentiles, and secondly unto the Jews (D&C 104:12).

The apostles are also instructed to provide direction for the Seventy (D&C 104:13, 16) and in large branches they may ordain evangelical ministers as directed by revelation (D&C 104:17).

The Apostles are named as a “quorum equal in authority and power to the three presidents previously mentioned” (D&C 104:11d) when their decisions are unanimous. There is a provision that a majority may form a quorum when circumstances render it impossible to be otherwise.

Notwithstanding the resolution which amended the instructions to the Mass Meeting of the Elders about the preference of selection, the selection of an Apostle at this point has no particular advantage over any other High Priest. It may be an advantage for this year to consider a High Priest because of the work the Apostles have before them in organizing the quorum, establishing planning and ministry coordination channels with the Seventy and the need to make various ministry trips.

It is very important for the elders and the General Conference to consider the meaning of a standing presidency. There is scripture to suggest that the Lord’s instruction to have the Apostle eventually be the standing presidency of the JCRB does not require an Apostle as the elected president of the JCRB as defined in our rules.

There should be no conflict or jealousy of authority between the quorums of the church; all are necessary and equally honorable, each in its place. The Twelve and Seventy are traveling ministers and preachers of the gospel, to persuade men to obey the truth; the high priests and elders holding the same priesthood are the standing ministers of the church, having the watchcare of the membership and nurturing and sustaining them, under the direction and instruction of the Presidency and the Twelve (D&C 120:3a-c).

Also from the Acts of the Apostles:

Then the twelve called the multitude of the disciples unto them, and said, It is not reason that we should leave the word of God, and serve tables. Wherefore, brethren, look ye out among you seven men of honest report, full of the Holy Ghost and wisdom, whom we may appoint over this business. But we will give ourselves continually to prayer, and to the ministry of the word (Acts 6:2-4).

The role of presiding as a presidency is not necessarily equivalent to filling the specific office of president of the JCRB. We recognize the instruction given to the elders as legislated in the rules.

Minutes of the Mass Meeting of Melchisedec Priesthood

In our prayerful consideration of this decision, we believe there are reasons to consider that it may not be wisdom to jump to the conclusion that the instruction and counsel given last April applies at this moment.

It is the desire of the ordained Apostles, and the potential Apostles, to make you aware of the current status of the Apostles in terms of organization. We do ask you to consider the concept of sufficiency of numbers organize a Quorum and the Quorum being filled.

We recognize the desires of many of the Conference delegates and officers regarding the Apostles and the work of the General Conference. Certainly, the elders may nominate any of the Melchisedec priesthood for the position of Conference President. This is your privilege to act as the legislated instructions designate. Your nominations need to be made with an understanding of what can now be provided through the office of Apostle to the General Conference.

REQUEST TO SUSTAIN PRESIDENT OF SEVENTY

To: The Conference

From: The First Quorum of Seventy

The First Quorum of Restoration Seventy met on April 4, 2017 and elected President of Seventy Ron Johnson to be President of the Quorum.

The conference is asked to sustain him in that office.

REQUEST TO SUSTAIN OFFICERS OF QUORUM

To the General Conference

From The Quorum of High Priests, Rob Rolfe, president

The Quorum of High Priests met in a retreat Saturday, April 1 and elected a president and secretary for the quorum.

President is Robert Rolfe and secretary is David Whiting.

The quorum requests that the conference sustain these men in these offices.

CONFERENCE REPORTS – Request for Approval of Ordinations

April 7, 2017

To the General Conference,

Brothers and Sisters, it is with great joy that we again greet you in the name of our Lord, Redeemer and Savior, Jesus Christ.

We have continued to prayerfully consider the needs of the work and the responsibility to seek out and call men into the office of Apostle. By the revelation of the Holy Spirit, the Lord has added another brother to be considered for ordination to the office of Apostle.

We respectfully submit the name of Seventy Avilio Herrera for ordination to the office of Apostle.

We request that his name be presented to the General Conference for consideration and approval for ordination.

Your Servants in the Gospel,

Apostle Gary R. Whiting
Apostle Randy Vick