

# Wesley Ray Declaration of Ministerial Commitment and Responsibility

## Exclusive Office and Order of Succession

Conforming revision | October 17, 2026 | Prepared for authorized adoption

### One Order

The Praeceptorium, The Order, and The Circle of the Elders are three names for the same internal teaching and oversight body within This Grace Bible Churches (TGBC).

### Exclusive lifetime office

The office and titles of Praeceptorius / Founding Bishop belong exclusively to Wesley Scott Ray for his natural life. Wesley Scott Ray cannot be removed, dismissed, deposed, replaced, suspended from this exclusive office, or voted out of this office by the Praeceptorium, The Order, The Circle of the Elders, any assembly, committee, panel, member, or other person or body within TGBC.

### No transfer or indirect removal

This office is personal and nontransferable. It cannot be assigned, inherited, passed on, duplicated, or conferred upon another man. No amendment, resolution, disciplinary decision, credential action, membership action, vote, or administrative measure may directly or indirectly remove Wesley Scott Ray from this exclusive office or transfer it to another man. No co-Praeceptorius or co-Founding Bishop may be created.

### Death and historical recognition

Upon Wesley Scott Ray's death, the exclusive office ceases as an active office. It does not become a vacant office to be filled. His historical recognition as the sole Praeceptorius / Founding Bishop remains permanently.

### Selection from among the Circle

Upon his death, the remaining admitted members of the Praeceptorium / The Order / The Circle of the Elders shall choose one qualified man from among themselves to serve as Overseeing Bishop of the Circle. The man chosen shall be skilled in the word of God, well taught by the word, faithful to sound doctrine, and able to teach others, holding firmly to the King James Bible rightly divided and TGBC's Pauline Dispensational Doctrine. His qualifications shall be examined under 1 Timothy 3:1-7 and Titus 1:5-9 KJB.

### Successor responsibility and limits

The Overseeing Bishop of the Circle is the successor in responsibility for oversight after the Praeceptorius's death. He shall preserve the doctrine, teaching, records, and order of TGBC. He does not inherit, receive, or continue the exclusive office or titles of Praeceptorius / Founding Bishop. Temporary or acting service during incapacity does not create permanent succession or transfer that office.

### Recorded procedure and an empty Circle

Selection requires at least 14 days' notice, a meeting with quorum, and approval by at least two-thirds of all eligible voting Circle members, rounded up. Record qualification, current Circle admission, the decision, written acceptance, and the effective date. If no admitted member remains, first reconstitute the Circle under the

applicable post-death procedure; only the restored Circle may then choose one of its admitted members. Custodians, relatives, deacons, and outside advisers gain no automatic seat or successor right.

### **Scripture, accountability, and scope**

The King James Bible remains the final written ecclesiastical authority. Scriptural counsel, examination of conduct, independent financial review, and lawful protective measures do not confer authority to remove Wesley Scott Ray from or transfer his exclusive lifetime office. This provision does not create personal ownership of TGBC property or change applicable civil obligations.

### **Application to this instrument**

These express provisions apply throughout this revised instrument and its included instruments, schedules, forms, credentials, and registers. They replace contrary wording only on the exclusive lifetime office, removal or transfer of that office, successor title, and successor eligibility and selection. Other provisions retain their stated scope. Preparation and publication do not certify execution or formal adoption.

## DECLARATION OF MINISTERIAL COMMITMENT AND RESPONSIBILITY

Wesley Ray | Draft for Review | Prepared October 14, 2026

I, Wesley Ray, solemnly declare my commitment to faithful teaching, service, and spiritual stewardship. This declaration records my present convictions and the responsibilities I undertake in ministry.

### I. Scriptural Authority and Doctrine

I affirm the King James Bible as my scriptural authority. I affirm the Gospel of Christ set forth in 1 Corinthians 15:1-4 KJB and commit to Pauline dispensational study, rightly dividing the word of truth under 2 Timothy 2:15 KJB. I shall hold fast the faithful word and teach sound doctrine in accordance with Titus 1:9 KJB.

### II. Character and Qualifications

I acknowledge that the desire to serve as a bishop carries responsibilities governed by 1 Timothy 3:1-7 and Titus 1:5-9 KJB. I submit my conduct and teaching to examination by these passages. I commit to humility, sober judgment, hospitality, honesty, spiritual maturity, and a good public report. My declaration alone does not establish that every qualification has been met.

### III. Service and Accountability

I undertake ministry for faithful service rather than status, dominion, or personal gain. I shall reject malicious gossip, destructive falsehoods, manipulation, and abuse of authority. I shall receive correction grounded in Scripture, address substantiated concerns honestly, and observe the responsibilities and accountability applicable to any office I hold.

### IV. Relationship to Ordination and Assembly Records

My personal account of a prior ordination is recorded separately in my Personal Statement of Ordination. This declaration does not constitute a new ordination, replace the lost certificate, or independently verify that account. It does not by itself establish a direct divine appointment or confer an office within This Grace Bible Churches, the Circle of the Elders, the Order, or the Praeceptorium. Organizational offices and titles remain governed by their applicable founding documents and duly recorded actions. This declaration does not amend those documents.

### V. Affirmation

By signing below, I affirm that this declaration expresses my present convictions and commitment. I accept the duty to pursue faithful service, sound teaching, moral vigilance, and accountable stewardship before God.

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Printed name: Wesley Ray Place (city/state): \_\_\_\_\_

Optional witness: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Witness printed name: \_\_\_\_\_