

Interoffice Memo

To: All Ordained Elders

Department

Date

August 6, 1990

From: *LS* Larry Salyer/*JK* Joseph Tkach, Jr.

Department

Church Administration

Phone

Subject: **New Ordination Certificate**

Enclosed is a new ordination certificate and a new laminated pocket-sized copy of the certificate to replace the ones originally sent to you. There are several reasons for wanting to replace the existing certificates including the fact that the wording on some of the certificates makes erroneous statements about the procedures followed and is grammatically weak in other places.

The employees in Corporate Graphics have done a beautiful job in redesigning the new certificates. They are more handsome and have a higher quality of production. Also it will be more difficult for anyone to duplicate the new certificates since a more complex printing method has been used. Each man's name and date of ordination has been placed on the form by a skilled calligrapher.

You may retain the old certificates as a personal memento, but they should no longer be used since they are no longer a valid, official document. This should be considered **official notification that all the old certificates of ordination are null and void.**

For those who are local elders or local church elders, a certificate of ordination as an elder is being sent. For those who have been ordained as Preaching Elder, Pastor or Evangelist a certificate of ordination to the ministry is being sent. No elder certificate will be sent to those who have subsequently been raised to Preaching Elder or above.

The new certificates also clearly state that each man's ordination is contingent on his continued adherence to the Church's teachings both in his preaching and counseling and in his personal life. This has always been the Church's doctrine; however, some have gone out from the Church stating that since they were once ordained they will always be ordained and have held themselves out as still fully qualified to serve as an ordained minister.

Though we have carefully prepared these documents, we realize that an occasional error is likely to occur due to inaccurate data in our records or simple human error in production. Please review the spelling of your name and the date of your ordination. If you find something in error, please let us know.