

Woodmont United Church of Christ

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**Proposed Bylaws as adopted at
Annual Congregational Meeting
on January 26, 2025**

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Article I. Name

The name of this church shall be "Woodmont United Church of Christ (Congregational)" located at 1000 New Haven Avenue, Milford, Connecticut 06460, hereinafter referred to as WUCC.

Article II. Purpose

The purpose of this church shall be to worship God, to preach the Gospel of Jesus Christ, and to celebrate the sacraments; to realize Christian fellowship and unity within this church, the fellowship of churches, and the Church Universal; to render loving service towards humanity, and to strive for righteousness, justice, the rule of God and peace on earth.

Article III. Vision Statement

Woodmont United Church of Christ embodies God's unconditional love by ministering to the needs of the people and the environment, striving to promote spiritual growth through scripture-driven, exuberant worship, and advocating for peace and justice. We celebrate diversity and welcome all into a fellowship of acceptance, forgiveness, spiritual exploration and discovery.

Article IV. Polity

This Church shall be part of the United Church of Christ and shall sustain that relationship to the United Church of Christ consistent with its avowed purpose. The government of this church is vested in its members, who exercise the right of control in all its affairs, subject to the laws of the State of Connecticut relating to religious corporations.

Article V. Faith and Covenant

Faith

This church recognizes the Bible as the spiritual guidance and practice and holds that living in accordance with the teachings of Jesus Christ is the true test of fellowship. Each Member shall have the right to follow the word of God according to the dictates of their own conscience enlightened by the Holy Spirit. The church follows the United Church of Christ Statement of Faith in the form of a doxology.

"We believe in you, O God, Eternal Spirit, God of our Savior Jesus Christ and our God, and to your deeds we testify:

You call the worlds into being, create persons in your own image, and set before each one the ways of life and death.

You seek in holy love to save all people from aimlessness and sin. You judge people and nations by your righteous will, declared through prophets and apostles.

In Jesus Christ, the man of Nazareth, our crucified and risen Savior, you have come to us and shared our common lot, conquering sin and death and reconciling the world to yourself.

You bestow upon us your Holy Spirit, creating and renewing the Church of Jesus Christ, binding in covenant, faithful people of all ages, tongues, and races.

You call us into your church to accept the cost and joy of discipleship, to be your servants in the service of others, to proclaim the gospel to all the world and resist the powers of evil, to share in Christ's baptism and eat at his table, and to join him in his passion and victory.

You promise to all who trust you forgiveness of sins and fullness of grace, courage in the struggle for justice and peace, your presence in trial and rejoicing, and eternal life in your realm, which has no end. Blessing and honor, glory and power be unto you. Amen."

Covenant

"We covenant one with another to seek and respond to the Word and the Will of God. It is our purpose to walk in the ways of the Lord, made known or to be made known to us. We hold it to be the mission of the church to witness to the Gospel of Jesus Christ in all the world, while worshipping God, and striving for truth, justice and peace. As did those who came before us, we depend on the Holy Spirit to lead and empower us. We pray for the coming of the Kingdom of God, and we look with faith toward the triumph of righteousness and eternal life."

Open and Affirming Statement

"We, the Members of Woodmont United Church of Christ, led by the Holy Spirit and by our study of scripture, declare ourselves to be an Open and Affirming Church. Looking to Jesus as our model of inclusive and unconditional love, we seek to embrace all people, welcoming them into full membership and participation as members of the Body of Christ.

We recognize, celebrate, and give thanks for the diversity in which we have been created, affirming that each person is a beloved child of God who is made in God's own image. We believe that through our diversity, we can all grow and practice a unity of faith that transcends our differences.

We honor, cherish and welcome all of God's children, regardless of race, age, sexual orientation, gender identity, nationality, ethnicity, socio-economic status, physical or mental disability.

We affirm and celebrate all loving and committed relationships. Acknowledging the long histories of discrimination perpetrated and/or condoned by the institutional church toward various groups of people, we commit ourselves to work diligently to end all such oppression and discrimination."

Article VI. Membership

Invitation

It is the heritage and vision of this church that anyone seeking the Word of God and the presence of Jesus Christ in their life is welcome, without exception, to join in its Christian worship services and participate in the life of this church. Invitation to become a member of this church may be given by the Pastor to anyone who has demonstrated before the congregation their commitment of faith and willingness to faithfully embrace this church's Statement of Faith and its Covenant.

There shall be three (3) categories of members: Active, Associate, and Inactive.

A. Active Membership

Candidates who are baptized shall be admitted into Membership upon:

1. Reception into the church at a regular worship service or at such other time by the Pastor and the Church Council acting on behalf of the church.
2. Letter of transfer from another church.

Active Members, to the best of their ability, are expected to do the following:

1. Regularly attend worship services
2. Regularly participate in church activities
3. Pledge and contribute financially to the support of the church and its missions
4. Participate and vote in church meetings

B. Associate Membership

An Associate Member is a person who wishes to participate in the life of this church, while maintaining membership in another church. Associate members shall have all the rights and responsibilities of Active Members, except the right to a letter of transfer to another church.

C. Inactive Membership

An Inactive Member is a member who has not attended the church's worship services, has not

participated in church activities, or has not contributed to its support for a period of two or more years. After contact in good faith has been attempted either personally or by letter with no resumption of duties, the person may be removed from the roll of Active Members and placed on the Inactive Member List by action of the Church Council. A member may also request to be placed on the Inactive Member List due to personal reasons. Inactive Members shall forfeit the right to vote and will not be counted in compiling an official roll of members.

Release of Membership

1. If a member resigns in writing, the Church Council, in consultation with the Pastor, shall endeavor to secure their continuance in the church. Failing such effort, the Church Council shall accept the resignation.
2. Any Active or Inactive Member wishing to leave this church and join another is entitled to a letter of transfer.
3. After a period of one (1) year, persons on the Inactive List shall be contacted again. Unless they make an explicit request to the contrary, they shall have their names removed from all membership rolls.
4. The Executive Board, in consultation with the Pastor, shall be the determining body in the event of a member's persistent breach of covenant vows. They shall act to:
 - a. Give them due notice
 - b. Offer them a meeting
 - c. Make faithful efforts to bring them to amendment in accordance with The Word of Christ.

Article VII. Governing Body

The governing body of this church shall be the membership assembled in congregational meeting. A quorum shall consist of 20% of the congregation's membership at the date of the meeting. In legal transactions involving the disposition of property, the members counted for the quorum must be at least 18 years of age.

Article VIII. Annual Meetings/Special Meetings

The Annual Meeting of the church shall be held in the month of January, or other such time as determined by the Church Council. It shall elect Officers, Coordinators, Auditors, and Delegates to

the Association and Conference to which this church belongs. The membership shall also elect the Nominating Committee. It shall also adopt a budget for the ensuing year, hear annual reports from Officers and Coordinators and transact all necessary and proper business to come before the meeting.

Special meetings of the church may be called by a vote of the Church Council, or by a petition signed by ten (10) or more church members. The Council shall call such meetings within three weeks of the receipt of the petition, and adequate notice shall be sent by the Clerk.

- A. Notice of all meetings of the Congregation shall be given in the following ways, not less than fourteen (14) days in advance of the scheduled meeting:
 - 1. Electronically via e-mail, unless a hard copy is requested through the church office.
 - 2. On the church website (www.woodmontucc.org)
 - 3. In the Chapel Bell and/or Woodmont Weekly
 - 4. Posted in the building
 - 5. Announced during worship and printed in the church bulletin
- B. In the event of cancellation of the meeting due to inclement weather, the Moderator, with consent of Council, may reschedule the meeting. Notice of the rescheduled date must be distributed to all members with at least one (1) weeks'notice. Notice shall be given in as many ways as feasible per Section A (above).
- C. The business to be conducted at such meetings shall be stated in the notice.
- D. The Moderator or Vice-Moderator shall preside at all congregational meetings of the church. The Clerk shall record the minutes of the meeting.
- E. All Active and Associate Members shall have the right to vote. The majority vote of the members present at the meeting shall be the action of the church, except in the case of the election of a pastor. (See "Article X. Pastor")
- F. Robert's Rules of Order (Revised) shall be observed in the conduct of the meetings.
- G. The official year of this church shall begin on January 1st.

Article IX. The Church Council and Executive Board

The Church Council considers and acts upon the interests of the life and work of the church. Matters of major interest and concern, particularly where they involve further consideration, debate, and/or sizable expenditures of funds, shall be referred to the whole church membership. The Church Council consists of the Pastor, the Officers and all Ministry Ccoordinators.

The Moderator presides over each meeting. In the absence of the Moderator, the Vice Moderator assumes the Moderator's duties. The Clerk takes the minutes of the meetings. At the start of each Council meeting, the Clerk needs to establish who is seated for a vote. A quorum of five (5), including two (2) officers, is needed to vote on issues; a simple majority of all present will carry the motion.

The Church Council

Duties of the Church Council include, but are not limited to the following:

- Hears reports of the pastor, the officers, ministry coordinators and any other person acting for the congregation
- Meets once per month, as determined by vote. The Moderator or the Pastor can call additional meetings, as needed
- Fills vacancies when they occur after the Annual Meeting
- Appoints two (2) people to administer the Stillman-Kelsey Grant Fund
- Approves members of Personnel and Pastoral Relations (PPR) as recommended by the Moderator and the Vice Moderator
- Any expenditures out of the scope of regular business and any expenditures exceeding \$800 need to be approved by the Church Council.

The Executive Board

The Executive Board consists of the Pastor, Moderator, Vice Moderator, Clerk, Treasurer, and Assistant Treasurer.

- The Executive Board will meet under special circumstances such as when issues deemed extremely sensitive must be discussed and acted upon before informing the Council and/or the congregation.
- The Moderator will call an Executive Board meeting as needed. Any officer can request a meeting of the Executive Board. The Clerk takes the minutes of the meetings, however the minutes will be stored in the vault rather than the office files.
- A quorum of four (4) is needed to vote on issues and a majority vote of the Executive Board determines the action of the Executive Board.

Article X. Pastor

The Pastor shall be an ordained minister with full and regular ministerial standing in the Association to which this church belongs. The Pastor shall have the charge of the worship services of the church and shall carry on a ministry of preaching, pastoral care and leadership. As an ordained minister of the congregation, each Pastor shall be a full member of the Executive Board and the Church Council and entitled to be present at any meeting of any church-sanctioned group, except meetings of the congregation during the time their tenure or salary is under discussion, if the church so votes. The Pastor may be a full member of the Congregation, if they so choose. The church, at its discretion, may choose an Associate or Assistant Pastor.

Termination of Pastor

The Pastor shall be elected for an indefinite period. In order to terminate this relationship, three (3) months' notice shall be given by either party, unless some other period of notice shall be mutually agreed upon.

In case of flagrant moral issues, the discipline of the Pastor shall be in conformity with common sense and Christian propriety. In case of controversial disputes involving theological and social differences, the counsel and advice of the Regional Conference Minister shall be sought by the Moderator in consultation with PPR and the Executive Board.

In the case of loss of ministerial standing as defined by the United Church of Christ, dismissal shall occur at once and membership shall cease at once.

Should the church decide to terminate the relationship, the termination shall be by a majority vote of the congregation, upon recommendation by the Church Council; notice of such termination shall be sent by the Moderator to the Conference Minister and the Association.

Interim Selection Committee

As soon as a pastoral vacancy occurs, it shall be reported to the Conference. The Officers of the Church shall recommend to the Church Council for approval, three (3) church members plus a member of PPR to serve on the Selection Committee for an Interim Pastor. The Interim Selection Committee does not need congregational approval. The Interim Selection Committee shall follow

conference guidelines in fulfilling its commitment. By consensus, one or more candidates shall be presented to the Church Council for selection and/or approval.

Pastoral Search Committee

The officers of the church shall recommend to the Church Council for approval, five (5) church members to serve on the Pastoral Search Committee, one of whom must be a member of PPR. The Moderator shall also serve on the committee as an ex-officio member. The committee members shall, to the greatest extent possible, reflect the general diversity of the congregation. This committee must be approved by a majority vote of the Congregation.

The Search Committee shall follow conference guidelines for the search and call of a settled pastor. The Search Committee shall present to the Church Council, the candidate it recommends to fill the vacancy. A majority vote of the Church Council will prompt the Moderator to convene a special congregational meeting, at which time the Search Committee will present the candidate. A quorum shall consist of 40% of the current Active and Associate Members list. A three-fourths (3/4) vote will constitute a call.

In the call, the terms of relationship shall be stated, including the agreement of the church to participate in the Pension Fund of the United Church of Christ, the Pastor's Health Insurance Program, the terms of salary and vacation allotment, sabbatical leave and such additional benefits as may be agreed upon by the Pastor and the church. The Pastor, the church, and the Conference shall each receive a copy of the call.

When a minister accepts a call to this church, the church and the minister shall join in requesting the Association to arrange for a Service of Installation or Recognition. Copies of the service shall be approved by the local Church and the Committee on Ministry of the Association.

Article XI. Other Staff

In order to assist in carrying out the full scope of the programs of the church, other staff including professionals or qualified volunteers, in music, youth and adult education, office administration, facilities management, or other specific skill areas, may be hired or recruited.

Such staff personnel requirements and issues will be administered by PPR in accordance with the policies and procedures of the church.

Article XII. Officers

Moderator

The Moderator is a church member, who is the lay leader and officer, elected at Annual Meeting for a term of two (2) years, not to exceed two terms. They are authorized to sign legal documents of the church. The Moderator uses "Robert's Rules of Order (Revised)" as a guide on all matters not covered by the Bylaws of Woodmont United Church of Christ.

Moderator Duties

- Preside at all congregational and special meetings of the church
- Preside at all meetings of the Church Council
- Help Pastor with Commitment Ceremony for members who are elected at Annual Meeting to serve as Officers, Delegates, and Coordinators
- Provide opportunity and positive environment at meetings for all parties to express their opinions
- Meet monthly with Pastor to review Church Council agenda
- Write agenda and Moderator's Report for monthly Church Council meetings
- Write agenda for other meetings such as Special Congregational Meetings
- Cast deciding vote when motions at Church Council Meetings result in a tie
- Work closely with the Clerk, especially on matters pertaining to Church Council, Annual Meeting, and Special Congregational Meetings
- Stay informed on how the church is being branded, marketed, and promoted
- Check in periodically with other church Officers, Delegates, and Coordinators
- Suggest and approve church members as candidates for the Personnel and Pastoral Relations Committee along with the Pastor and the Vice Moderator.
- Be aware of contract negotiation proceedings between representatives of the church and outside entities, such as the Co-Op.
- Keep the congregation informed about the business and activities of the church

- In case of dangerous weather or other safety concerns, the Moderator and the Pastor, in consultation with the Worship Coordinator(s) will decide whether to cancel services
- Administer the Members' Emergency Fund (formerly Deacon's Fund) in a confidential manner, in consultation with the Pastor.

Vice Moderator

The Vice Moderator is a church member elected at Annual Meeting for a term of two (2) years, not to exceed two terms. They are authorized to sign legal documents of the church in the absence of the Moderator.

The Vice Moderator uses "Robert's Rules of Order (Revised)" as a guide on all matters not covered by the bylaws of Woodmont United Church of Christ.

Vice Moderator Duties

- Assume other duties of the Moderator, when necessary, especially in Moderator's absence
- Shall, in the event of resignation, permanent absence, or disability of the Moderator, succeed to that position for the remainder of the year
- Shall serve as chairperson of the Nominating Committee
- In conjunction with the Moderator, suggest candidates for PPR.

Clerk

The Clerk is a church member and an officer elected at Annual Meeting for a term of two (2) years, not to exceed two terms. The Clerk, as an officer, is also authorized to sign legal documents of the church.

Clerk Duties

- Act as secretary for Annual, Congregational and Church Council meetings, which includes meeting minutes
- Performs duties as assigned by the Church Council
- Gives notice of meetings as specified in Article VIII, Annual Meetings/Special Meetings

- Records all church proceedings and transactions
- Keeps registry of membership, admissions, dismissals, baptisms, marriages, and deaths
- Prepare a report for the Annual Meeting

Treasurer

The Treasurer is a church member elected at Annual Meeting for a term of two (2) years, not to exceed six (6) consecutive years. The Treasurer is authorized to handle the matters of the church's finances. The Treasurer, as an Officer, is also authorized to sign legal documents of the church.

Treasurer Duties

- Primary signer on all bank accounts, except the Member's Emergency Fund (formerly Deacon's Fund).
- Checks back-up invoices, payment requests, receipts, and contracts (when applicable) to assure proper procedures are being followed and are audit-ready
- Signs checks prepared by the professional bookkeeper (hired by the church)
- Determines that payment requests are in order
- Approves check authorizations in cases where the Ministry Coordinator is unavailable
- Prepares monthly and quarterly financial reports to present at Church Council meetings
- Prepares the budget to present at Annual Meeting in cooperation with the Assistant Treasurer
- Prepares year-end financial reports to present at Annual Meeting
- Trains Assistant Treasurer and Counters
- Attends monthly meetings of Church Council to present financial reports
- May not be a Counter or backup Counter

Assistant Treasurer

The Assistant Treasurer is a Church Member elected at Annual Meeting for a term of two (2) years, not to exceed six (6) consecutive years. The Assistant Treasurer is authorized to assist the Treasurer in the handling of the church's financial matters. The Assistant Treasurer is also authorized to sign legal documents of the church in the Treasurer's absence.

Assistant Treasurer Duties

- Signs all bank accounts, except the Member's Emergency Fund, in the Treasurer's absence.
- Signs checks prepared by the professional bookkeeper (hired by the church) in the Treasurer's absence.
- Checks back-up invoices, payment requests, receipts, and contracts (when applicable) to assure proper procedures are being followed and are audit-ready in the Treasurer's absence.
- Assumes other duties of the Treasurer when necessary, especially in Treasurer's absence.
- Assists in preparation of budgets.
- Recruits and trains the Counters of Sunday offerings.
- Attends Church Council meetings in the absence of the Treasurer.
- Shall, in the event of resignation, permanent absence, or disability of the Treasurer, succeed to that position for the remainder of the year.
- May not be a Counter or backup Counter.

Article XIII. Ministry Coordinators, PPR and Nominating Committee

Common Responsibilities for All Ministry Coordinators

- All Ministry Coordinators may attend and vote at Church Council meetings
- Recruit others to assist in performing these functions
- Keep the Church Council and the Office Administrator up-to-date about their plans, specifically for scheduling and advertising purposes
- Familiarize and keep current task-specific procedures for the ministry
- Prepare ministry's report for Annual Meeting
- Prepare the following year's budget request
- Coordinator terms are one (1) year commitments, with a maximum of five (5) consecutive years
- Provide orientation for new incoming coordinator(s)
- Specific responsibilities, as outlined below

Worship Co-coordinators (2)

Recruit volunteers for worship leadership (readers, greeters, hall monitor, etc.) and work in conjunction with the pastor to prepare the worship space and other special worship preparations (e.g. communion setup).

Building and Grounds Co-coordinators (2)

Maintain the church's real properties, including grounds, utilities (heating, cooling, water, and lighting systems), repairs, general cleaning and sanitation. Obtain quotes for work using approved protocol, vet vendors, manage contractor relationships, and assure work is performed effectively and completely. Ensure church compliance with building and fire codes. Purchase furniture and appliances as needed.

Fellowship Coordinator

Plan fellowship opportunities and recruit volunteers to host them (e.g. "coffee hour" and special fellowship events, etc.). Also responsible for hospitality supplies (plates, cups, utensils, etc.). Set up meals for church members in need.

Mission/Outreach Coordinator

Lead the implementation of mission and vision as discerned by the church. Plan mission opportunities and recruit volunteers to help fulfill them. Empower and support others who wish to bring a missional endeavor to the church. Plan and execute opportunities for outreach (e.g., community events).

Faith Formation Coordinator

Provide meaningful church school programming, making provision for teaching staff, curriculum, and training courses as needed. Liaison to the children and their families. Support the pastor in order to ensure that faith formation opportunities carry across all ages.

Fundraising Coordinator

Develop, plan and implement fundraising activities, based on church needs, as determined by the Church Council. Research and initiate capital campaigns as needed, in conjunction with the Church Council.

Stewardship Coordinator

Assist the Pastor in planning and executing a year-long stewardship campaign, to include regular pledge updates and other relevant communication with church members. Coordinate and work with the Treasurer, Assistant Treasurer, and Office Administrator.

Digital Ministry Coordinator

Oversee and schedule live stream operators for Sunday and other special worship/events. Recruit and train others to operate live stream. Recommend improvements and supplies to maintain and augment the live stream systems. Ensure that sound and video equipment is maintained and operating properly.

Personnel and Pastoral Relations Committee (PPR)

PPR members are church members appointed by the Church Council. There should be no more than five (5) or fewer than three (3) members on the committee. They are appointed for a term of two (2) years, with a maximum of four (4) consecutive years. Terms are rotated so there is always at least one experienced committee member serving.

PPR Responsibilities:

- Meet as needed and with the Pastor, at least quarterly
- Develop and maintain good working relationships between the congregation, the Pastor, and the staff of the church
- Ensure job performance is consistent with the church mission and goals
- Provide a framework for staff and the Pastor with such tools as contracts, job descriptions, annual evaluations
- Make recommendations for compensation and benefits, which are included in the church budget
- Maintain the Personnel Handbook
- Seek input from the Pastor, staff and select members of the congregation when conducting annual performance evaluations
- Prepare a report for the Annual Meeting with discretion
- PPR duties are conducted within an atmosphere of confidentiality

Nominating Committee

The Nominating Committee will consist of two (2) church members, chosen by the Vice Moderator, who will lead the committee. These members will serve no more than five (5) consecutive years.

The Nominating Committee will recommend a slate of officers (Moderator, Vice-Moderator, Clerk, Treasurer and Assistant Treasurer) to present to the congregation for a vote at Annual Meeting.

The Nominating Committee will recommend a slate of coordinator candidates, delegates, auditors. This will be done in consultation with the Church Council. The slate will be presented to the congregation for a vote at Annual Meeting.

At the Annual Meeting, nominations may be made from the floor for positions which remain vacant. If a vacancy occurs in any position during the year, the Church Council will appoint a replacement to fill the vacancy, until the next Annual Meeting.

Article XIV. Other Elected Positions

Auditors

Two (2) church members are elected as Auditors at Annual Meeting to serve one term of (2) years. They ensure that the accounts of the church's funds are used for their intended purpose, and prescribed procedures are followed. The year to be audited will be the year prior to the elected term. Church Council may decide to periodically request an outside audit or reconciliation.

Delegates

Delegates to the New Haven Association

Delegates are church members elected at Annual Meeting for a term of one (1) year, with a maximum of five (5) consecutive years. They represent Woodmont United Church of Christ at all meetings of the New Haven Association of Connecticut of the United Church of Christ. As per New Haven Association guidelines, one (1) delegate per every 75 members or part thereof.

Delegates to the Southern New England Conference, UCC (SNEUCC)

Delegates are church members elected at Annual Meeting for a term of one (1) year. They represent Woodmont United Church of Christ at all meetings of the Connecticut Conference of the United Church of Christ. If possible, the church defrays the cost in part or whole for the delegates. As per Conference guidelines, we are allowed three (3) delegates, including a youth delegate under the age of 21.

Article XV. Removal of Member from an Elected Position

In the case where an elected member is having difficulty in carrying out the responsibilities and actions required for fulfilling them, the Pastor will meet with the Executive Board* to discuss a rational course of action and meet with the elected member.

Actions taken by the Executive Board and the Pastor as a result of these discussions might include but not be limited to the following:

1. Training the individual for the task at hand
2. Requesting the individual resign from the elected position
3. Removing the individual from the elected position

If the behavior of the individual includes actions in violation of the *Woodmont UCC Safe Space Policy* or includes illegal/risky behavior, immediate dismissal from the elected position would occur.

*If the individual is on the Executive Board, they would be excluded from the initial discussion.

Article XVI. Property and Dissolution

The church in its corporate name may sue or be sued, acquire for purchase, gift, devise, bequest or otherwise, and own, hold, invest, reinvest or dispose of property both real and personal for such work as the church may undertake, and may purchase, own, receive, hold, manage, care for and transfer, rent, lease, mortgage or otherwise encumber, sell, assign, transfer and convey such property for the general purpose of the church. It may receive and hold in trust both real and personal property and invest and reinvest the same and make any contracts for promoting the objects and purposes of the church.

The Officers of the church will be empowered to sign legal documents as approved by Church Council. Other signers may be authorized by Church Council.

To dissolve/disband the church, a vote of no less than two-thirds (2/3) of the current Active and Associate Members of the Church is required to do so. All dissolution procedures must be in compliance with state and federal guidelines.

In the event of the dissolution of the church, its assets and all property and interests, including any device, bequest, gift or grant contained in any will, or other instrument, in trust or otherwise, made before or after such dissolution, shall be transferred to the Southern New England Conference of the United Church of Christ or its successor thereof, unless otherwise specified by the donors.

Article XVII. Amendments

Amendments to the Bylaws may be made at any duly called congregational meeting by a two thirds (2/3) affirmative vote of the members present, public announcement of the text of the proposed amendment(s) having been made prior to the meeting, according to the notification procedures in Article VIII. Amendments may be proposed by the Church Council or by written request of 10% of the Active Members and submitted to the Clerk.