Association of United Church Educators

Articles of Organization

Article I — Name
The name of this organization shall be the Association of United Church Educators (AUCE).

Article II — Purpose
The Association of United Church Educators is to be a community of people who recognize that education and faith formation are vital ministries in the life of the church, and that continued growth is essential for all people engaged in faith formation and education; to advocate for education and faith formation and provide a support community for those in faith formation leadership roles; and to broaden the scope and depth of educational ministry in the United Church of Christ and its ecumenical partners.

Article III — Membership and Dues
Section 1. Membership shall be open to all persons who support the purpose of the organization, including, but not limited to, Ordained, Commissioned, Licensed and Lay educators, and volunteer educators in all settings of the United Church of Christ, and its ecumenical partners.

Section 2. All dues shall be payable on an annual basis in advance.

Article IV — Board of Directors
Section 1. The planning body and the group responsible for handling business matters between official meetings shall be the Board of Directors.

Section 2. This board shall consist of the following voting members.
One representative from each of seven regions: New England, Middle Atlantic, Southern, Great Lakes, Central, Rocky Mountain, and Western.
A Chairperson to preside at any AUCE national meetings, to preside over the Board of Directors, and to represent AUCE to the United Church of Christ and its ecumenical partners.

A Secretary to keep minutes and records of proceedings, and to conduct official correspondence.

A Treasurer to propose a budget, pay bills, and to keep the financial records.

A Vice Chairperson to assist the Chairperson,

Section 3. Selection of regional representatives and elected officers.

Item A. Regional Representatives
Each region shall select one representative.
New England, Southern, Central, and Rocky Mountain Region shall select a representative in even numbered years.
Middle Atlantic, Great Lakes, and Western Region, shall select a representative in odd numbered years.

Item B. Elected Officers
1. Officers
Elected officers (Secretary, Treasurer, Vice Chairperson) are elected for 2 (two) year terms and may serve no more than 2 (two) consecutive terms.

Balloting
a. Balloting for elected officers of the Board of Directors shall be by the standard means of communication with AUCE members.
b. A slate of Officers, plus information about nominees, shall be sent to each member at least 30 (thirty) days prior to voting period.
c. Ballots will be offered and collected both on-line and through the U.S. Postal Service.
d. Voting will close 2 (two) weeks after ballots are sent.
e. The Secretary shall announce election results via the standard means of communication within 2 (two) weeks of close of voting.
Section 4. Terms of Office

No voting member of the Board of Directors shall serve more than 8 (eight) consecutive years on the Board of Directors.

Elected officers are elected to 2-year terms, and may serve no more than 2 consecutive terms.

The Vice Chairperson is elected for one 2-year term and will serve as the AUCE Chairperson for the subsequent 2-year term.

If the Chairperson wishes to serve a second 2-year term, the Vice Chairperson may remain in their role or conclude their term. If, at the conclusion of the Chairperson’s term, the Vice Chair is ineligible to become the chair (i.e., exceeding 8-year Board membership), then an election for both offices will be held.

The Vice-Chairperson shall be elected in odd-numbered years to a term beginning in even-numbered years.

The Treasurer shall be elected in even-numbered years to a term beginning in an odd-numbered year.

The Secretary shall be elected in even-numbered years to a term beginning in an odd-numbered year.

Regional representatives are selected for two-year terms and may serve no more than three consecutive terms. The term of office begins at the first meeting of the Board of Directors in a calendar year.

Elected officers shall hold Office until the duly elected members have succeeded them.

The Secretary of the Board of Directors shall keep a record of individual terms and offices served.

Section 5 Vacancies

In the event of a vacancy for a regional representative, the AUCE Chairperson may appoint a person from the region to serve until the region acts to fill the unexpired term.

In the event of a vacancy for one of the other offices of AUCE, the Board of Directors shall name a person to fill the unexpired term. That person,
if they wish to continue serving in that office, will then be put forward in a retention vote at the next election, unless the term of the office they were named to fill is complete, in which case, nominations for that office will continue in the normal manner.

Appointment to fulfill an unexpired term does not count towards term limits.

In the event of a vacancy in the office of Chairperson, the Vice Chairperson will be authorized to convene the Board of Directors.

Section 6. Nominating Committee Process

AUCE members will be invited to submit nominations for leadership by standard means of communication at least once annually. The Board will review and submit to the membership a slate of officers for election.

Article V — Meetings

National Meetings of all AUCE members for official business may be held as possible.

The Secretary shall submit notice of national meetings via AUCE's standard means of communication with its members at least 60 (sixty) days before the scheduled dates.

The Board of Directors shall meet at least once each calendar year to conduct official business and planning. The Elected Officers (Executive Committee) jointly may make necessary decisions between scheduled meetings.

Article VI — Amendments

These Articles may be amended in one of two ways:

The members of AUCE may amend these articles, by resolution, at an officially called meeting, with a two-thirds vote of those present, or via AUCE's standard means of communication with its members.
The Board of Directors may amend these articles at its yearly meeting, and may put any changes into practice. However, any such amendments are subject to ratification by a two-thirds vote of those present at the next duly called national meeting if one is held within a year, or by a two-thirds tally of those voting via AUCE's standard means of communication. Voting will close two weeks after ballots are sent. The Secretary shall announce results via standard means of communication.

Amended 1/31/78
Amended 1/19/88, adopted at a national meeting 1988
Amended 10/15/92, ratified at a national meeting 1993
Amendments ratified at national meeting 02/05/2004 in Phoenix, AZ
Amendments ratified by mail/email vote of members, July 2007 Amended 9/30/11
Amendments ratified by mail/email vote of members, February 20, 2012
Amendments ratified by mail/email vote of members, July 1, 2014
Amended by BOD, November 5, 2015
Amended 02/13.202, ratified at a national meeting 2021