

1. Association of United Church Educators
2. Articles of Organization
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5. Article I – Name
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7. The name of this organization shall be the Association of United Church Educators (AUCE).
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10. Article II – Purpose
- 11.
12. The Association of United Church Educators is to be a community of people who recognize that church
13. education is a vital ministry in the life of the church, and that the continued growth toward greater
14. competency of persons engaged in church education is essential; and to be an advocate for church education
15. and educators and a support community to broaden the scope and depth of educational ministry in the United
16. Church of Christ.
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19. Article III – Membership and Dues
- 20.
21. Section 1. Membership shall be open to all persons who support the purpose of the organization, including
22. professional Ordained, Commissioned, Licensed and Lay educators, and volunteer educators and education
23. supporters in all settings of the United Church of Christ.
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25. Section 2. All dues shall be payable on an annual basis in advance. A portion of each member's dues may be
26. requested by his/her regional AUCE affiliate.
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29. Article IV – Board of Directors
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31. Section 1. The planning body and the group responsible for handling business matters between official
32. meetings shall be the Board of Directors.
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34. Section 2. This board shall consist of the following voting members.
35. One representative from each of seven regions: New England, Middle Atlantic, Southern, Great Lakes,
36. Central, Rocky Mountain, and Western.
37. A Chairperson to preside at the national meetings, to preside over the Board of Directors, and to represent
38. AUCE to the denomination.
39. A Secretary to keep minutes and records of proceedings, and to conduct official correspondence.
40. A Treasurer to propose a budget, pay bills, and to keep the financial records.
41. A Vice Chairperson to assist the Chairperson.
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43. Section 3. Selection of regional representatives and elected officers.
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45. Each region shall select one representative. New England, Southern, Central, and Rocky Mountain Region
46. shall select a representative in even numbered years. Middle Atlantic, Great Lakes, and Western Region, shall
47. select a representative in odd numbered years.
48. Balloting for elected officers of the Board of Directors shall be by the standard means of communication with
49. AUCE members. Ballots shall be sent to each member at least 60 (sixty) days prior to a scheduled meeting or
50. meeting of the Board of Directors. The Secretary shall count ballots at least 30 (thirty) days prior to a national
51. meeting or Board of Directors meeting. Election results shall be announced via the standard means of
52. communication with AUCE members.
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54. Section 4. Terms of Office
- 55.
56. Regional representatives are selected for 2 (two) year terms and may serve no more than 3 (three) consecutive

57. terms.

58. Elected officers (Secretary, Treasurer, Vice Chairperson) are elected for 2 (two) year terms and may serve no  
59. more than 2 (two) consecutive terms. The term of office begins at the next national meeting, or Board of  
60. Directors Meeting. The Vice Chairperson is elected for one 2-year term and will serve as the AUCE  
61. Chairperson for the subsequent 2-year term.

62. The Vice Chairperson and Treasurer shall be elected in even-numbered years, and the Secretary shall be  
63. elected in odd-numbered years. Elected officers shall hold Office until the duly elected members have  
64. replaced them.

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

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

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69. Section 5. Vacancies

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

73. In the event of a vacancy for one of the other offices of AUCE, the Board of Directors shall name a person to  
74. fill the unexpired term.

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

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78. Section 6. Nominating Committee

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80. A Nominating Committee composed of 3 (three) persons shall be appointed by the Board of Directors, and the  
81. chairperson of the Nominating Committee designated by the AUCE Chairperson from the current Board of  
82. Directors membership. Nominating Committee members need not be members of the Board of Directors.

83. The Nominating Committee shall submit the names of 2 (two) nominees for each of the following offices:

84. vice chairperson, secretary, and treasurer; except in the event an incumbent is eligible and has agreed to be re-  
85. elected, then only one name, that of the incumbent, may be placed in nomination.

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88. Article V – Meetings

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90. National Meetings for official business may be held as possible.

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92. The Board of Directors shall meet at least once each calendar year to conduct official business and planning.

93. The Elected Officers (Executive Committee) jointly may make necessary decisions between scheduled  
94. meetings.

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

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99. Article VI – Amendments

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101. These Articles may be amended in one of two ways:

102. The members of AUCE may amend these articles, by resolution, at an officially called meeting, with a two-  
103. thirds vote of those present, or via AUCE's standard means of communication with its members.

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105. The Board of Directors may amend these articles at its yearly meeting, and may put any changes into  
106. practice. However, any such amendments are subject to ratification by a two-thirds vote of those present at  
107. the next duly called national meeting if one is held within a year, or by a two-thirds tally of those voting via  
108. AUCE's standard means of communication with its members, provided that notice of the proposed  
109. amendment(s) is submitted by mail and/or email to the membership 30 (thirty) days before the official  
110. meeting or balloting deadline.

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113. Amended 1/31/78

- 114. Amended 1/19/88, adopted at a national meeting 1988
- 115. Amended 10/15/92, ratified at a national meeting 1993
- 116. Amendments ratified at national meeting 02/05/2004 in Phoenix, AZ
- 117. Amendments ratified by mail/email vote of members, July 2007
- 118. Amended 9/30/11
- 119. Amendments ratified by mail/email vote of members, February 20, 2012
- 120. Amendments ratified by mail/email vote of members, July 1, 2014

## **Association of United Church Educators**

### **Policies and Functions**

The AUCE Board of Directors adopts the following statements as guidelines for interpreting the Articles of Organization and as policies of the organization.

#### **Functions:**

1. AUCE brings together national, conference, local church, and other educational personnel and volunteers on the basis of their commitment to education.
2. AUCE promotes quality church education and a high level of competence among church educators. It shares information on the educational opportunities and offers constructive guidance to persons engaged in Christian education and formation.
3. AUCE acts on behalf of church educators in relation to agencies and covenanted ministries of the church on such matters as improving placement procedures, promoting Commissioned Ministry, upholding standards, promoting good employment practices, and interpreting the role of church educators.
4. AUCE requests that the United Church of Christ Faith Formation Ministry Team name one staff person to serve as a liaison with AUCE to facilitate communication and the planning of joint efforts in the areas of mutual concern. The liaison should be a member of AUCE. The Elected Officers of the Board of Directors may invite special guests as called for by the agenda, such as a representative from a higher education setting of the United Church of Christ, for instance.
5. The AUCE Board of Directors may appoint persons to serve in positions at the discretion of the Board of Directors, such as a Membership Secretary and person responsible for technology. They will serve as voice without vote members of the Board of Directors.

#### **Policies:**

1. AUCE is an independent organization, recognized as an official organization of the United Church of Christ.
2. AUCE strives as an organization to live into the United Church of Christ General Synod resolution to be multicultural, multi-racial, open and affirming and accessible to all.
3. AUCE works toward ecumenical and interfaith cooperation with organizations concerned with quality religious education.
4. AUCE-sponsored educational events are open to all persons regardless of membership in AUCE. A reduced registration fee will be available for AUCE members.
5. When feasible, national events of AUCE will be scheduled contiguously with other national meetings.
6. Contact information of AUCE members will not be shared with any other group, individual, or agency unless specifically sanctioned by a unanimous vote of the Board of Directors.

#### **Dues:**

1. Dues for Sustaining Members are \$100.00 per year payable in advance. Regular annual dues are \$75.00 (Basic Member).
2. Dues for full-time college, graduate degree candidates, and retired church educators are \$35.00 per year payable in advance.
3. Dues for couples (both of whom are educators) joining at the same time are \$100.00 per year payable in advance. (Educator Couple). They will receive two *AUCE* membership cards. Both will be eligible to join the email group, and to receive reduced rates at regional/national AUCE events.
4. Dues for volunteer educators are \$35.00 per year payable in advance (Volunteer).
5. Dues for retired educators are \$35.00 per year payable in advance (Retired Educator).
6. Group Membership for up to 5 people from the same church/agency may join for \$175.00 per year.
7. Each region may request up to 10% of the dues collected from members residing/working in that region. Regions with special needs may request additional funds to be granted at the discretion of the Board of Directors.
8. Past AUCE Chairpersons will receive lifetime member status and be exempt from paying dues.
9. AUCE Founders Award recipients will receive lifetime member status and be exempt from paying dues.

#### **Regional Boundaries:**

10. The Rocky Mountain Region will include the Montana-Northern Wyoming, Rocky Mountain, and Southwest Conferences.
11. The Western Region will include the Pacific Northwest, Central Pacific, Northern California-Nevada, Southern California-Nevada, and Hawaii Conferences.
12. The New England Region includes the Maine, New Hampshire, Vermont, Massachusetts, Rhode Island and Connecticut Conferences.
13. The Mid-Atlantic Region includes the New York, Penn Northeast, Pennsylvania Southeast, Penn Central, Penn West, and Central Atlantic Conferences.
14. The Southern Region includes the Southern, Southeast, Florida and South Central Conferences.
15. The Great Lakes Region includes the Wisconsin, Michigan, Illinois, Illinois South, Indiana/Kentucky, and Ohio Conferences.
16. The Central Region includes the Minnesota, Iowa, Northern Plains, South Dakota, Nebraska, Kansas/Oklahoma, and Missouri Mid-South Conferences.

**Financial Issues:**

- The Treasurer and the Chairperson shall be authorized to sign checks.
- Board of Directors members are urged to research the most economical method for travel to and from annual meetings. The Treasurer reserves the right to ask for documentation of this research.
- AUCE will reimburse mileage at the current IRS professional rate for members driving to and from an annual meeting.
- The Board of Directors will make an effort to be careful stewards of expenses for its annual meeting. If receipts are received by the Treasurer, expenses will be reimbursed up to 60 days after the event.

Amended 1/31/72

Amended 1/31/82

Corrected 1/7/87

Amended 11/15/03

Amended 9/30/11

Amended 2/20/12

Amended 7/1/14