

Articles of Organization of the New England Association of United Church Educators

- Article 1 **Name:** The name of this organization shall be the New England Association of United Church Educators (NEAUCE).
- Article 2 **Purpose:** NEAUCE is to be a community of people who recognize that Christian faith formation and education is vital ministry in the life of the church, and that the continued growth toward greater competency of persons engaged in these ministries is essential. Therefore, NEAUCE is organized to be an advocate for all leaders with responsibility for faith formation and education, and will support this community of church leaders to broaden the scope and depth of this vital ministry through personal and professional development.
- Article 3 **Membership:**
- a. Members of the national Association of United Church Educators (AUCE) residing in New England are automatically members of the regional organization (NEAUCE).
 - b. Those who attend the official business meeting of NEAUCE are automatically members for 12 months or until the next annual meeting is held.
- Article 4 **Meetings:** The official business meeting shall be held once a year during the annual educational conference. Notice of the annual conference shall be sent at least 60 days before the scheduled date. In the spirit of ecumenism, the annual conference is open to all.
- Article 5 **Coordinating Committee:**
- Section 1 The planning body of the group responsible for handling business matters between official meetings shall be the Coordinating Committee.
- Section 2 This committee shall consist of ten members:
- a. A representative from each of six states (Connecticut, Rhode Island, Massachusetts, Vermont, New Hampshire and Maine).
 - b. A chairperson who has served on the Coordinating Committee a minimum of two years.
 - c. One member as Registrar and one member as Treasurer.
 - d. The Coordinating Committee shall appoint a secretary.
 - e. One member with responsibility for faith formation ministries who currently serves on the staff of one of the New England State Conferences. This person will be invited to serve by the Coordinating Committee of NEAUCE.
 - f. Ex-officio members (voice without vote) may be: The NEAUCE representative to the AUCE Board of Directors, any other members of the AUCE Board of Directors (especially those residing and active in the New England region) and any staff members of the United Church of Christ with responsibilities for faith formation leadership.
- Section 3
- a. State representatives will be chosen at a State meeting prior to the Regional meeting, and shall be elected to serve for two years, serving not more than two consecutive, full terms. Three representatives shall be elected in even-numbered years: Connecticut, New Hampshire and Vermont. Three representatives shall be elected in odd-numbered years: Maine, Massachusetts and Rhode Island.
 - b. State representatives will nominate a chairperson and a national representative in even numbered years; a Registrar and Treasurer in alternate years. Election for a two-year term will be by the membership in attendance at the Regional meeting. Each may serve no more than two consecutive, full terms.
 - c. No person may serve on the Coordinating Committee longer than eight years consecutively in any capacity.
- Section 4 **Vacancies:** The chairperson shall name the person to fill all unexpired terms.
- Article 6 **Amendments:**

Members of NEAUCE or the Coordinating Committee may by resolution amend these by-laws provided, howsoever, that such amendments shall not become effective until ratified by two-thirds of those present at an official business meeting, and provided that notice of the proposed amendment be sent to the membership 30 days before the official business meeting of NEAUCE.