

1                                   **Association of United Church Educators**  
2   **Articles of Organization**

3 **Article I – Name**

4 The name of this organization shall be the Association of United Church  
5 Educators (AUCE).

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7 **Article II – Purpose**

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

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17 **Article III – Membership and Dues**

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

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

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25 **Article IV – Board of Directors**

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

28  
29 Section 2. This board shall consist of the following voting members.  
30 One representative from each of seven regions: New England, Middle  
31 Atlantic, Southern, Great Lakes, Central, Rocky Mountain, and  
32 Western.

33 A Chairperson to preside at any AUCE national meetings, to preside over  
34 the Board of Directors, and to represent AUCE to the United Church of  
35 Christ and its ecumenical partners.

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

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

40 A Vice Chairperson to assist the Chairperson.

41

### 42 Section 3. Selection of regional representatives and elected officers.

#### 43 Item A. Regional Representatives

44 Each region shall select one representative.

45 New England, Southern, Central, and Rocky Mountain Region shall select  
46 a representative in even numbered years.

47 Middle Atlantic, Great Lakes, and Western Region, shall select a  
48 representative in odd numbered years.

49

#### 50 Item B. Elected Officers

##### 51 1. Officers

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

54

##### 55 Balloting

56 a. Balloting for elected officers of the Board of Directors shall be by the  
57 standard means of communication with AUCE members.

58 b. A slate of Officers, plus information about nominees, shall be sent to  
59 each member at least 30 (thirty) days prior to voting period.

60 c. Ballots will be offered and collected both on-line and through the U.S.  
61 Postal Service.

62 d. Voting will close 2 (two) weeks after ballots are sent.

63 e. The Secretary shall announce election results via the standard means of  
64 communication within 2 (two) weeks of close of voting.

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66 Section 4. Terms of Office

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

84 Regional representatives are selected for two-year terms and may serve no  
85 more than three consecutive terms.

86 The term of office begins at the first meeting of the Board of Directors in a  
87 calendar year.

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

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

92

93 Section 5 Vacancies

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

97

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

100 if they wish to continue serving in that office, will then be put forward  
101 in a retention vote at the next election, unless the term of the office they  
102 were named to fill is complete, in which case, nominations for that office  
103 will continue in the normal manner.

104  
105 Appointment to fulfill an unexpired term does not count towards term  
106 limits.

107  
108 In the event of a vacancy in the office of Chairperson, the Vice Chairperson  
109 will be authorized to convene the Board of Directors.

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## 111 **Section 6. Nominating Committee Process**

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

116

### 117 **Article V – Meetings**

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

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

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

127

### 128 **Article VI – Amendments**

129 These Articles may be amended in one of two ways:

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

133

134 The Board of Directors may amend these articles at its yearly meeting,  
135 and may put any changes into practice. However, any such  
136 amendments are subject to ratification by a two-thirds vote of those  
137 present at the next duly called national meeting if one is held within a  
138 year, or by a two-thirds tally of those voting via AUCE's standard  
139 means of communication. Voting will close two weeks after ballots are  
140 sent. The Secretary shall announce results via standard means of  
141 communication.  
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143 Amended 1/31/78  
144 Amended 1/19/88, adopted at a national meeting 1988  
145 Amended 10/15/92, ratified at a national meeting 1993  
146 Amendments ratified at national meeting 02/05/2004 in Phoenix, AZ  
147 Amendments ratified by mail/email vote of members, July  
148 2007 Amended 9/30/11  
149 Amendments ratified by mail/email vote of members, February 20, 2012  
150 Amendments ratified by mail/email vote of members, July 1, 2014  
151 Amended by BOD, November 5, 2015  
152 Amended 02/13.202, ratified at a national meeting 2021