

33 The Association shall use the United Church of Christ Manual on Ministry as its guidelines for
34 oversight of ministries authorized by the United Church of Christ.

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36 **Article III: DECLARATION OF FAITH**

37 This Association accepts as a general expression of its view of Christian Doctrine the Statements(s)
38 of Faith of the United Church of Christ approved by a General Synod of the United Church of Christ.

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40 **Article IV: MEMBERSHIP**

41 **Section 1 - Churches**

42 1. The membership of this association shall consist of local churches of the United Church of Christ
43 in Chittenden, Franklin, Grand Isle, counties and nearby areas of Lamoille county and of other
44 churches as have been or shall hereafter be received by vote of the Association.

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46 a. Representation Each church shall be entitled to representation by pastor(s) and three
47 delegates, one of whom may be a youth.

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49 b. Transfer and Withdrawal A church may be received or transferred into, or withdraw from the
50 Association upon written request and by a two-thirds vote of the Association and in agreement with
51 the Constitution and By-Laws of the Vermont Conference of the United Church of Christ. A vote on
52 a request to withdraw from the Association and the United Church of Christ will not be taken without
53 a prior report from the Association Executive Committee to the Vermont Conference and the
54 members of the Association.

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56 Section 2 - Ministers

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58 1. Membership shall be granted to:

59 a. All active or retired ordained or commissioned ministers of the United Church of Christ who are
60 residing within the boundaries of the Association and have membership in any Association or
61 Conference of the United Church of Christ.

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63 b. All pastors of other denominations serving Association churches, provided such pastors hold full
64 ministerial standing in their denomination. Such members shall have full voting rights on all matter

65 not involving the ordination and standing of pastors and the standing of churches of the United
66 Church of Christ.

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68 c. Officially approved United Church of Christ Licensed Ministers and Commissioned Ministers in the
69 service of Association Churches.

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Section 3 - Delegates

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73 a. All delegates elected or appointed by member churches shall be members with all rights and
74 voting privileges during their respective terms of office.

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76 b. Officers, members of the elected Association committees, and appointees to vacancies of this
77 Association shall be members ex-officio with all the rights and voting privileges of delegates during
78 their respective terms of office.

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Section 4 - Voting Privileges

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82 Each delegate of the Association shall be entitled to one vote. Each minister who is a member of
83 the association, as defined in Article IV, Section 2, shall be entitled to one vote.

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Section 5 - Guest Members

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87 Guests may be granted privilege of voice without vote upon say of members present.

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Article V OFFICERS

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Section 1 - Moderator

92 The Moderator shall be elected at the Association Annual Meeting for a term of two years and shall
93 assume office at the close of said meeting. The Moderator shall not serve more than one
94 consecutive term. Whenever possible the office of Moderator should alternate between laity and
95 clergy. The Moderator shall preside at meetings of the Association, prepare an agenda for
96 Association meetings and perform such other duties as may be required. If the Moderator is unable
97 to act, the Vice-Moderator shall preside.

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Section 2 - Vice Moderator

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The Vice-Moderator shall be elected at the Association Annual Meeting for a term of two years and shall assume office at the close of said meeting. The Vice-Moderator shall be a member of the Executive Committee and shall act in place of the Moderator when necessary.

Section 3 – Registrar

The Registrar shall serve a term of three years and be elected at the Association Annual Meeting. The Registrar may serve two consecutive full terms.

The Registrar/Scribe shall maintain the roll of churches; shall issue calls for meetings, shall notify all persons elected to office, shall conduct the correspondence of the Association, and in the absence of the Moderator and Vice-Moderator shall call the meeting to order and preside until a Moderator pro tem is chosen and shall render such other services as may be required.

Section 4 – Treasurer/Scribe

The Treasurer/Scribe shall serve a term of three years and be elected at the Association Annual Meeting. The Treasurer may serve two consecutive full terms.

The Treasurer shall collect and disburse all monies of the Association, present a proposed budget for the ensuing year to the Executive Committee for presentation to the Annual Meeting and present an annual report for the past year. The Treasurer/Scribe shall prepare and maintain minutes of all meetings of the Association and Executive Committee.

Section 7 - Auditor

The Auditor shall be elected at the Association Annual Meeting for a term of one year.

The Auditor shall examine the financial report of the Treasurer and attest to its accuracy prior to the Annual Meeting.

Section 8 - Worship Leader

The Worship Leader shall be elected at the Association Annual Meeting for a term of one year.

The Worship Leader is responsible for worship at Association meetings as required.

Article VI: REPRESENTATIVES to the CONFERENCE

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The Association shall elect, at the Annual Meeting, such representatives to the Conference as are provided by the Constitution and By-Laws of the Vermont Conference of the United Church of Christ or other action of the Conference.

These Representatives shall serve a term of three years. A representative may not serve more than two full-terms consecutively.

ARTICLE VII: COMMITTEES

Section 1 - Executive Committee

There shall be an Executive Committee consisting of the Moderator, the Vice Moderator, the Registrar/Scribe, the Treasurer, and the representatives of the Association to the Vermont Conference Board of Directors and Conference Departments plus members of the Conference Ministerial Standing & Standards Committee that are a part of the Association.

The Executive Committee shall promote the common interests of all the churches and shall assist the Conference in calling Ecclesiastical Councils for examination, ordination and installation, or any other purpose upon the request of any church in the Association.

The Executive Committee may act for the Association in the interim between meetings and shall report its actions at each meeting of the Association.

Section 2 - Nominating Committee

The Executive Committee shall serve as the Association Nominating Committee. The Nominating Committee shall present to the Annual Meeting nominations for all Association officers and committee members, and representatives to the Conference. The Moderator will call for nominations from the floor.

Section 3 - Other Committees

The Association shall have the power to establish such other committees as it shall deem necessary.

Article VIII: VACANCIES

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172 Vacancies in any office or committee may be filled by the Executive Committee, effective until the
173 next Annual Meeting.

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175 **Article IX: MEETINGS**

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177 Section 1 - Annual Meeting

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179 The Annual Meeting shall be held at least one week prior to the Annual Meeting of the Conference.
180 The date, place, program, and all details of the meeting, shall be arranged by the Executive
181 Committee in consultation with the host church pastor.

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183 Section 2 - A Second Meeting

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185 A second meeting is customarily held approximately midway between Annual Meetings with
186 arrangements to be made as in Section One of this article.

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188 Section 3 - Special Meetings

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190 A Special Meeting may be called by the Registrar/Scribe upon the request of the Moderator or at
191 the request of four member churches and/or pastors representing a combination of four churches.

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193 Section 4 - Quorum

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195 Twenty delegates and/or ministers (as defined in Article IV, Section 2) from at least six churches
196 shall constitute a quorum for the transaction of business.

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198 Section 5 - Order of Meetings

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200 All meetings shall be conducted in accordance with Robert's Rules of Order.

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202 **ARTICLE X: DUES**

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204 The Dues of the Association shall be in the form of an assessment upon each church in the
205 Association according to its total United Church of Christ church membership and at a rate
206 recommended at the Annual Meeting by the Executive Committee and approved by the Association.

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Article XI: DISSOLUTION OF THE ASSOCIATION

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210 In the case this Association is dissolved any and all assets remaining after payment of outstanding
211 obligations shall be distributed to the member churches in proportion to the dues paid during the
212 most recent year. Should such distribution to any church be impossible, its share shall be transferred
213 to the Vermont Conference of the United Church of Christ. All records shall be transferred to said
214 Conference.

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XII: AMENDMENTS

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218 Any Article of this Constitution and By-Laws may be amended at any Annual, Semi-Annual or
219 Special Meeting by a two thirds vote of the members present, provided the proposed amendment has
220 been read at a previous meeting, or written notice of the proposed amendment has been sent to the
221 pastor and clerk of each church in the Association at least one month prior to the meeting. Once the
222 proposed Amendment of an Article has been properly brought to the floor of an authorized meeting of
223 the Association, that Amendment will be treated as that of any other motion.

224

225 Theses By-Laws were adopted at the duly called meeting of the Champlain Association, 25April2010.

226

227 Moderator, John LaRue John LaRue Date: 10 June 2010

228

229 Scribe, Rev. Adrienne Carr Adrienne Carr Date 10 June, 2010

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231 Amendment record and attesting to: (To include articles added/deleted/changed and date.)

232

Date: Article(s): Moderator: Scribe: