

Proposed By-Law Amendments

1. Under Article IV Membership. 1.1 Becoming a member – ~~A prospective member shall have been baptized or will be baptized as part of their reception into membership.~~ Prospective members will be offered baptism.

(The purpose of this amendment is not to force a prospective unbaptized member to be baptized in order to join the church. Baptism should be a choice, not a requirement.)

2. Under Article IV Membership. The Pastor and/or Office Staff shall maintain weekly worship attendance records based upon the attendance sheets ~~distributed and submitted by the ushers:~~ and via online attendance.

(The purpose of this amendment reflects that ushers no longer provide this service and that we include online views as counting for attendance.)

3. Under Article V Church Leadership. The Senior Pastor will be an Authorized Minister with standing in the United Church of Christ.

(The purpose of this amendment requires that the Senior Pastor of Hudsonville UCC will be a United Church of Christ authorized minister.)

4. Under Article V Church Leadership. The Associate Pastor will be an Authorized Minister with standing in the United Church of Christ.

(The purpose of this amendment requires that the Associate Pastor of Hudsonville UCC will be a United Church of Christ authorized minister.)

5. Under Article V Church Leadership. The Moderator shall be elected at the Annual Congregational Meeting to serve for ~~one year but not more than three successive one-year terms.~~ one two-year term renewable once.

(The purpose of this amendment is to align the Moderator term with other terms of service.)

6. Under Article V Church Leadership. The Treasurer shall receive and disburse all funds except Mission Fund ~~and Building Fund.~~

Disburse funds under the direction and oversight of the ~~Financial Secretary and the Finance Team~~ and the Church Council.

(The purpose of this amendment reflects the elimination of the Building Fund and Financial Secretary.)

7. ~~Under Article V Church Leadership. **Building Fund Treasurer** shall:~~

- ~~● Be elected at the Annual Congregational Meeting to serve for one year or until a successor is elected.~~
- ~~● Be a member of the Finance Team.~~
- ~~● Manage funds from the Building Fund.~~
- ~~● Maintain accurate and complete records of all his/her transactions and report same at each Annual Meeting.~~
- ~~● Submit books annually to the Auditor for review or upon request to the Church Council and/or Finance Team.~~

(The purpose of this amendment reflects the elimination of the Building Fund Treasurer.)

8. ~~Under Article V Church Leadership. **Financial Secretary** shall:~~

- ~~● Be elected at the Annual Congregational Meeting to serve for one year or until a successor is elected.~~
- ~~● Be a member of the Finance Team.~~
- ~~● Be a member of the Church Council and report to them at their regularly scheduled meetings or as needed more often.~~
- ~~● Keep an accurate confidential account of each envelope giver and furnish each envelope giver with a regular statement of their account.~~

- ~~● Advise the Finance Team and Treasurer regarding best handling of Church investments.~~
- ~~● Develop, implement, and oversee (in conjunction with the Finance Team and Treasurer) a policy to guide the handling of Church investments.~~

(The purpose of this amendment reflects the elimination of the Financial Secretary.)

9. Under Article V Church Leadership. Delegates shall be elected at the Annual Congregational Meeting to serve for ~~one year or until a successor is elected.~~ a two-year term renewable once.

(The purpose of this amendment is to align the Delegates term with other terms of service.)

10. Under Article VI Governance. Council members will be elected at the Annual Congregational Meeting for ~~a one-year term or until a successor is elected.~~ a two-year term renewable once.

(The purpose of this amendment is to align the Council term with other terms of service.)

11. Under Article VI Governance.

~~Kids Hope Team~~

~~Represents our Church and KIDS HOPE program for any community and area events. Acts as a liaison between South School Personnel, Mentors Children, Parents, and our Church. Participates with other Local Directors to share ideas and concerns. Recruits and trains new Mentors for the program. Recruits and trains new Prayer Partners for prayer support for the Children, Mentors, Parents, School personnel, and our Church. Recruits and trains a Leadership Team consisting of a Communication Coordinator, Prayer Partner Coordinator, and Special Events Coordinator. Schedules and presides over 2 meetings (September and January) with KIDS HOPE Leadership team for planning and program direction. Schedules and assists in planning 3 or 4 special events for the children. Schedules and assists in planning Annual Appreciation Luncheon and Program for all volunteers. Manages KIDS HOPE budget. Prepares annual report for the Congregation~~

(The purpose of this amendment reflects the elimination of the Kids Hope Team.)

12. Under Article VI Governance. The Finance Team will be made up of at a minimum a team leader, ~~recording secretary~~, and a treasurer. The Finance Team leader is responsible for guiding the financial direction of the church. The Team leader ~~and recording secretary~~ will be elected at the annual meeting for a one year term or until a successor is elected. The ~~recording secretary~~ Treasurer is responsible for tracking the giving of each member and preparing statements for each biannually.

(The purpose of this amendment reflects the elimination of the recording secretary.)

13. Under Article VI Governance. Volunteers ~~the Finance Team~~ will count the offering each week.

(The purpose of this amendment is to reflect that the Finance Team no longer counts the offering each week.)

14. Under Article VI Governance. The Outreach Team shall oversee and implement ongoing missions such as Kids Hope, Hand 2 Hand and Feeding America. and ~~The Emergency Food Assistance Program (TEFAP).~~

(The purpose of this amendment reflects the elimination of Kids Hope and TEFAP.)

- ~~15. Under Article VII Congregational Meetings A quorum shall be 75% of the average of the attendance of voting members from the last three Annual Congregational Meetings. The church Council will vote to establish a new quorum for the next Annual Congregational meeting based on that average. The minimum to determine a quorum shall be 50 voting members. Business, that requires a vote from the congregation, must be conducted with a minimum of 35 members present (or 51% of active members, whichever is the lesser).~~

(The purpose of this amendment is to establish a reasonable quorum.)

~~APPENDIX A~~

~~Be it known that this document was drafted by an ad-hoc committee created by an act of the Church Council in December 2006 at its regularly scheduled meeting. The Committee remained open to any and all Church Members who wished to participate. The records of the Committee's proceedings are kept in the Church office for reference for review of any interested parties. It is intended that following the first year of this document being in place, that a thorough review of it be completed with recommendations made for revisions if necessary.~~

~~This Ad Hoc Committee met diligently during the months of December, January, and into February 2006-2007. This ad hoc committee grew out of an initiative that included Eric Thorsen, Chuck Bunting, Jack Hyde, and Gary Simmons. Participants in the Ad Hoc Committee were as follows:~~

Pastors Eric and Jan Thoreson — Kim Kwekel — Paul Slotegraaf
Nels DeVries — Ed Link — John Stephenson
Joan Edson — Fred Rogalske — Brenda Stilwill
Denise Fisher — Mary Rogalske — Jim Sullivan
Patricia Haynes — Kevin Schrock — Bill Tigelaar
Ken Haynes — Gary Simmons — Jack Hyde, Chairman

APPENDIX B

~~Be it known that this document was amended by another ad hoc committee created by the Church Council upon the realization that the creation of Directors for the structure and implementation of ministries was not working as well as was hoped. Under the pastoral guidance of the Rev. Karen Stokes, Interim Senior Pastor, a new ad hoc committee was created consisting of David Bendert, George Ronn, and Mary Lou Koons. After Pastor Dan Furman was called, the work of the ad hoc committee continued, culminating in the new Team structure above. At the November Annual meeting in 2014, the Congregation voted to suspend Article VI of the By-Laws in order to implement the new Team model. Council shifted their regular meeting time to after worship on the second Sunday of the month to become transparent and to facilitate more fluid conversation with the congregation while the structure changed. Seven new Teams were created: Finance, Christian Education, Outreach, Congregational Life, Facility, Worship, and Pastoral Relations. More than 20 active church members responded positively to serve on the new teams. Implementation began immediately, well before the above changes were made to amend the By-Laws to reflect the new structure. The same invitation is extended for this first year of implementation for review.~~

(While Council appreciates the work of these individuals, Council no longer believes these appendices need to appear in the By-Laws after multiple amendments.)