

Constitution and Bylaws

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CONSTITUTION AND BYLAWS

~~THE EASTERN OHIO ASSOCIATION OF THE UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST~~

PREAMBLE

~~Whereas, the Evangelical and Reformed Church and the General Council of the Congregational Christian Church have joined to form the United Church of Christ; and~~

~~Whereas, the Ohio Conference of Congregational Christian Churches and the four Ohio Synods of the Evangelical and Reformed Church — the Northeast Ohio Synod, Northwest Ohio Synod, Southeast Ohio Synod, and Southwest Ohio Synod — have consolidated to form the Ohio Conference of the United Church of Christ (hereinafter referred to as the “Ohio Conference”) without break in their respective historical continuities and traditions, and~~

~~Whereas, the Eastern Ohio Association of the United Church of Christ and the Puritan Association of Congregational Christian Churches and Ministers have merged to form this Association without break in their respective historical continuities and traditions;~~

~~Now, therefore, the following provisions are adopted as the Constitution of the Eastern Ohio Association of the United Church of Christ.~~

An Association is that body within a Conference of the United Church of Christ which is composed of all Local Churches in a geographical are, all Authorized Ministers holding standing or ordained ministerial partner standing therein, who have been granted voting membership in the Association.

*Constitution and Bylaws of the United Church of Christ
Article VIII. Associations and Conferences*

ARTICLE I – NAME

The name of this Association of the Ohio Conference of the United Church of Christ shall be The Eastern Ohio Association of the United Church of Christ, hereinafter referred to as this Association.

ARTICLE II – PURPOSE

The purpose of this Association is:

- A. **Be an Association of the Ohio Conference of the United Church of Christ**
 - a. ~~To~~Determine, confer, and certify to the respective standings of the local churches and ministers.
 - b. Strengthen and undergird the work and witness of the local churches
 - c. Counsel with both ministers and local churches relative to pastoral relationships.
- B. **Interpret and promote the work of the United Church of Christ and its Covenanted, Affiliated and Associated Ministries.**
- C. **Acquire, own, manage and dispose of properties and funds.**
- D. ~~–~~

- A. ~~To be an Association of the Ohio Conference composed of members as provided in Article IV.~~
- B. ~~To.~~
- C. ~~To relate local churches to the life and work of the United Church of Christ through the Ohio Conference.~~
- D. ~~To~~

ARTICLE III – LOCAL CHURCHES

- A. The basic unit of the life and organization of the United Church of Christ is the local church. The autonomy of the local church is inherent and modifiable only by its own actions. ~~Nothing in this Constitution and Bylaws shall destroy or limit the right of each local church to continue to operate in the way customary to it; nor shall be construed as giving to this Association, now or at any future time, the power to abridge or impair the autonomy of any local church, in the management of its own affairs, which affairs include, but are not limited to, the right to retain or adopt its own methods of organization, worship and education; to retain or secure its own charter and name; to adopt its own constitution and bylaws; to formulate its own covenants and confessions of faith; to admit members in its own way and to provide for their discipline and dismissal; to call or dismiss its pastor or pastors by such procedures as it shall determine; to acquire, own, manage and dispose of property and funds; to control its own benevolences; and to withdraw by its own decision from the United Church of Christ, the Ohio Conference and this Association at any time without forfeiture of ownership or control of any real or personal property owned by it.~~ The Eastern Association of the United Church of Christ follows the UCC Manual on Church as it relates to its

relationship with the Local Church. Existing in a covenant relationship **with Jesus Christ and** with all settings within the United Church of Christ, all actions by, or decisions or advice emanating from the General Synod, the Ohio Conference and this Association should be held in high regard by each local church. (UCC Manual on Church).

- B. The following local churches have standing in the Association unless they have determined otherwise and have officially notified the Association:
 - a. All local churches within the Association currently having standing with the Eastern Ohio Association.
 - b. All local churches that are hereinafter received into and granted standing in the Association at the request of a local church provided the Constitution and Bylaws of the local church are compatible with those of the United Church of Christ, the Ohio Conference and the Association.

A.—

- 7. ~~Existing in a covenant relationship with Jesus Christ and with all settings within the United Church of Christ, all actions by, or decisions or advice emanating from the General Synod, the Ohio Conference and this Association should be held in highest regard by each local church.~~

ARTICLE IV – MEMBERSHIP

- A. Members of this Association are local churches **and all authorized ministers.** ~~and those persons granted the right to vote at Annual Meeting by Article VI, section 15 of this constitution.~~ Members of this Association exercise responsibility for its life directly at Annual Meeting or special meetings and in the interim through and by an Association Council chosen by this Association. ~~A local church is composed of persons, who, believing in the triune God, accepting Jesus Christ as Lord and Savior, and depending on the guidance of the Holy Spirit, are organized for Christian worship, and for the ongoing work of Christian witness.~~
- B. Local Church Standing
 - a. The standing and membership of a local church in this Association may be **involuntarily terminated at any meeting of this Association by a majority upon two-thirds** vote of ~~the delegates~~ **those** present and voting, provided **that notice of such proposed action is specified in the call of the meeting at which the action is taken.**
- C. **Authorized Ministerial Standing**
 - a. **All authorized ministers with standing granted by the Committee on Ministry of the Association shall be considered members of the Association.**
 - e. ~~to withdraw from the Association has been taken by the local church requesting voluntary termination pursuant to its constitution and provided certification of such action is delivered to the Association General Minister~~

~~at least ninety (90) days prior to the Association meeting at which such action is to be taken.~~

~~b.—~~

- ~~1. All local churches having been granted standing by the Committee on Ministry of this Association shall be considered members of this Association.~~
- ~~2. The standing and membership of a local church in this Association may be involuntarily terminated at any meeting of this Association upon two-thirds vote of those present and voting, provided that notice of such proposed action is specified in the call of the meeting at which the action is taken.~~

ARTICLE V – ORGANIZATION

This Association shall organize as follows:

A. Elected Officers

- i. Moderator
- ii. Vice-Moderator
- iii. Secretary
- iv. Treasurer

B. Association General Minister

- i. The Association shall call an ordained **authorized** minister of the United Church of Christ to be its **full-time** executive officer **and spiritual leader**.
- ii. **If the Association General Minister does not have standing at the time of call they will be given one year from start of service to obtain authorization and standing.**

~~A. Professional Staff~~

~~The Association Council shall call other Professional staff as may be deemed appropriate and prudent for supporting the ministries of this Association and its local churches.~~

C. Association Council

- a. The Association Council shall be composed of the elected officers, ~~the Immediate Past Moderator, and ten~~ **and eleven**-members to be elected by this Association at the

Annual Meeting. The Association General Minister and the Professional Staff shall be **an** ex-officio members of the Council without vote.

- b. The Association Council shall serve as the governing body for the Association between Association meetings.
 - c. The Council shall ~~may~~ employ such personnel as this Association determined needed by the Association General Minister ~~may determine~~. All personnel shall work under the direction of the Association General Minister.

D. Committees

~~The work of the Association shall be done by the following:~~

- a. The Standing committees of the Association shall include:
 - i. The Committee on Ministry whose members are elected by the Association to have authority for authorization for ministry.
 - ii. The Nominating Committee, whose members are recommended by the Association Council and elected by the Association, to nominate candidates prior to annual meeting.
 - iii. The Personnel Committee, whose members are recommended by the Association Council and elected by the Association, shall be responsible for the total personnel and staff concerns of the Association.
- E. Ministry Teams implement an essential ministry of the association. Their membership is comprised of those persons who have been identified for their expertise and interest. A list of members will be submitted to the Association Council on an annual basis to ensure diversity and ongoing recruitment.
- F. Prophetic Witness Teams address an issue of social concern. Their membership is comprised of those persons who have been identified for their expertise and interest. Its purpose is to engage the local setting and association in education and/or advocacy, to be a religious voice in the public sphere and to promote the creation of a just society. A list of members will be submitted to the Association Council on an annual basis to ensure diversity and ongoing recruitment.
- G. The Association Council may declare any office vacant at any time for nonfeasance or malfeasance by the person holding such office and fill that office until the next Association meeting.
 - a. ~~—~~
 - b. ~~And such other Committees and/or Working Groups as this Association or Association Council deem necessary.~~

ARTICLE VI – MEETINGS

- A. This Association shall gather in an Annual Meeting.
- B. Special meetings shall be called by the Association Council. Special meetings may be called by this Association in meeting or on the initiative of the Association Council, or upon the receipt of petition of not less than fifteen percent (15%) of the local churches or forty percent (40%) of the ordained ministers holding standing in this Association. Only matters specified in the call shall be acted upon at a special meeting.
- C. Written notice of any meeting of the Association shall be transmitted to the voting members at least thirty days prior to the meeting.
- D. The voting membership of this Association shall consist of: be authorized ministers with standing, (i.e. — Ordained, Commissioned, or Licensed) holding standing in this Association, members of the Association Council; and lay delegates selected by the local churches
 - a. Every local church is entitled to two (2) lay member delegates at the meeting of the Association. A local church with reported membership of more than four hundred (400) may send one additional delegate for every additional four hundred (400) members or fraction thereof.

~~The Certified Partners in Ministry of this Association,~~

~~C. Clergy with Dual Standing in this Association,~~

~~D. Professional Church Educators recognized by this Association,~~

~~E. Elected Association Council members and officers, and~~

~~F. Lay Delegates elected by and representing the local churches holding standing in this Association.~~

~~b. Every local church shall be represented at the meeting of this Association by one lay delegate except that~~

~~A. Any church composed of two or more yoked churches may be represented by one lay delegate if those churches so desire, and~~

~~B. A local church with reported membership of more than four hundred (400) may send a lay delegate for every four hundred (400) members or major fraction thereof.~~

- E. A quorum at any meeting of this Association shall consist of one or more representatives (clergy ~~or lay, or other professionals~~) from twenty five percent (25%) of the local churches with standing in this Association. In no instance will any person be counted more than once in determining the quorum.
- F. **Electronic voting by use of authorized communications equipment may be used. Authorized Communication Equipment is any communications equipment that provides a transmission, including, but not limited to, by telephone, telecopy, or any electronic means, from which it can be determined that the transmission was authorized by, and accurately reflects the intention of, the member or director involved and, with respect to meetings, allows all persons participating in the meeting to contemporaneously communicate with each other.**
 - a. Meetings of the Association Council or any committee of the Council may be held through communications equipment if all persons participating can hear each other, and such participation shall constitute presence at such a meeting.
 - b. Electronic voting will be allowed for actions taken by the Association Council and requires unanimous and written consent to be passed. Electronic voting will be allowed for actions taken by members of the Association and requires an affirmative vote of a majority of all members (not quorum) to be passed.

ARTICLE VII – AMENDMENTS

- A. Amendments to this Constitution and Bylaws may be proposed by the Association Council or by at least five percent (5%) of the local churches of this Association. Proposed Amendments shall be submitted in writing to the Association Council at least two months prior to the Association Meeting at which they are to be considered. Notice of such amendments shall be transmitted in writing to the members of this Association at least one month prior to the Association Meeting at which they are to be considered. Amendments may be adopted at a regular or special meeting.
 - B. Adoption of amendments to this Constitution shall require a two-thirds affirmative vote of those present and voting in an Association Meeting.
18. ~~Adoption of amendments to these Bylaws shall require a majority affirmative vote of those present and voting in an Association Meeting.~~

BYLAWS

~~THE EASTERN OHIO ASSOCIATION OF THE UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST~~

These Bylaws consistent with the Constitution of the United Church of Christ and the Constitution of this Association, further define and regulate this Association and its Committees, and define the free and voluntary relationship which the local churches and ministers sustain with this Association and with each other. The pattern of relationships and procedures so described is recommended to the local churches and ministers to enable them more effectively to accomplish their work and the work of this Association.

ARTICLE I – THE MINISTRY

~~2. This Association, in as much as it is practical, and unless superseded by other language in these bylaws, will follow the policies, procedures and guidelines of the United Church of Christ Manual on Ministry, and the Constitution and Bylaws of the United Church of Christ, in regard to Members in Discernment, Ordained Ministry, Dual Standing and Privilege of Call, Ordained Ministerial Partners, Commissioned Ministry, and Licensed Ministry.~~

ARTICLE II – MEETINGS

- ~~3. Purpose of the Annual Meeting shall be to elect officers, Council members, Committee members, members of the Ohio Conference Board of Trustees, nominees for General Synod delegates, and nominating committee; and conduct other business of the Association; to hear reports from the Association General Minister, other staff, the Association Council and all committees and to stimulate and enrich the spiritual life of its members.~~
- ~~4. Written notice of any meeting of this Association shall be transmitted to the voting members at least one month prior to the meeting.~~

ARTICLE III VIII- ELECTIONS

- A. The Nominating Committee shall, **with prior consent of the proposed nominees, present one or more candidates for each such elective position. for all elective offices.** Additional nominations may be made from the floor of this Association **provided the nominee has given prior consent.**
- B. For an election, the Nominating Committee shall prepare a written ballot listing nominees with space provided for additional nominations. In the event a slate presents only one nominee per office, and there are no additional nominations, election by written ballot may be waived by unanimous consent. A majority vote of those present and voting shall be necessary to elect.

- C. Officers and other elective or appointive members of various bodies shall take office at the close of the Annual Meeting and shall hold office until their successors are duly selected.
5. ~~All elections shall be by ballot. A majority of those present and voting shall be necessary to be elected. If one candidate does not receive a majority, another ballot shall be cast between the two candidates having the highest number of votes.~~

ARTICLE IV ~~IX~~ – OFFICERS AND ADMINISTRATION

- A. Officers of the Association may be ordained ministers with standing or lay persons who hold membership in a local church. The office of Moderator and Vice-Moderator shall rotate between ordained ministers and lay persons.
- B. The Moderator and Vice-Moderator shall be elected for terms of two years and shall not be eligible to succeed themselves.
- C. The Secretary and the Treasurer shall be elected for terms of ~~three~~ two years and after two full terms of office shall not be eligible to succeed themselves.
- D. The Association General Minister shall be an ordained minister ~~must have ministerial authorization with the United Church of Christ.~~ The term of service shall be indefinite. The Association Council shall appoint a committee to search for a candidate for this office. The name of one ~~minister~~ candidate shall be submitted to this Association. ~~In~~ at an Annual Meeting or a special meeting called for that purpose. ~~this~~ The Association shall vote by ballot. ~~for or against his/her election.~~ An affirmative vote of a two-thirds ($\frac{2}{3}$ rds) majority in attendance shall be required for election to this office. If elected, the Association Council issues the call.
- a. If the Association General Minister does not have standing at the time of call they will be given one year from start of service to obtain authorization and standing.
- E. ~~Members of~~ The Association Council shall consist of the elected officers, ~~ten members elected by this Association~~ be elected for terms of three two years, and the Immediate Past Moderator. ~~No fewer than three of the elected ten members shall be elected at each Annual Meeting of this Association.~~ and after serving two full terms of office, no elected member shall not be eligible to succeed himself/herself ~~themselves~~.
8. ~~The Moderator and Vice-Moderator may be ministers or lay persons. If the Moderator is a minister, the Vice-Moderator shall be a lay person. If the Moderator is a lay person, the Vice-Moderator shall be a minister. The Secretary and the Treasurer may be ministers or lay persons.~~

9. ~~If the candidate is elected, the Association Council shall extend a Call. In the Call the terms of the relationship shall be stated. These shall include provisions for periodic review and the termination of the relationship. The terms shall include the agreement of this Association to participate in the Pension Fund on the Association General Minister's behalf. The Call shall be signed by the Moderator and the Secretary of this Association.~~

ARTICLE X . DUTIES OF STAFF, OFFICERS, AND COMMITTEES

The Moderator, Vice-Moderator, Secretary, Treasurer, Association General Minister, ~~and other professional staff~~ in addition to the powers and duties which are expressly granted herein, have those powers and duties which usually pertain to such officers. Without in any way limiting their other general powers, the Moderator and Secretary are authorized to sign all deeds, mortgages, contracts, and such other written instruments as shall become necessary or appropriate in protecting and carrying on the business and property interests of this Association.

- A. Association General Minister shall be the Executive Officer of the Association. As Executive Officer, the Association General Minister shall fulfill such duties as outlined in the Call Agreement and the Job Description approved by the Association Council.
- B. The Moderator shall preside at all meetings of the Association and of the Association Council. The Moderator shall serve as exofficio member without vote of all committees of the Association. The Moderator shall, with consultation of the Association General Minister and subject to prior confirmation by the Council, appoint such special committees and task forces as the Council or the Association shall direct.
- C. The Vice-Moderator shall assist the Moderator in their duties and, when requested by the Moderator or in the Moderator's absence, shall act on their behalf.
- D. The Secretary shall keep accurate and permanent minutes of the meetings of the Association and Association Council.
- E. The Treasurer shall be the fiscal agent of the Association and will maintain its financial records. The Treasurer, with the approval of the Council, may delegate the authority for daily operation to designated staff. However, the Treasurer shall have the continuing responsibility for overseeing accounting, authorization and review procedures to assure that funds are administered in a proper manner.
- F. The Association Council shall consist of the members specified in the Constitution. The officers and eleven (11) at-large members shall serve two (2) year terms and shall be divided into two classes, members of each class to be elected in alternate years. Council members and officers shall serve no more than two (2) consecutive terms. The Association Council shall act for the Association ad-interim between Association meetings, pursuant to the direction of

the Association. The Association Council shall employ such personnel as the Association may determine. All personnel shall work under the direction of the Association General Minister.

~~A – ASSOCIATION GENERAL MINISTER~~

- ~~15. The Association General Minister shall be the Executive Officer of this Association. As Executive Officer, the Association General Minister shall fulfill such duties as outlined in the Call Agreement and the Job Description approved by the Association Council.~~

~~B – Professional Staff~~

- ~~16. The Professional Staff shall perform such duties as assigned by the Association Council and/or the Association General Minister.~~

~~C – THE MODERATOR~~

- ~~17. The Moderator shall preside at all meetings of this Association and of the Association Council.~~
- ~~18. He/she shall have the privilege of attending meetings of the Association and Committees with voice but not vote.~~
- ~~19. He/she shall sign certificates and communications as provided for in this Constitution and Bylaws.~~
- ~~20. He/she shall appoint special committees as requested by the Association Council or the Association and, with the approval of Council, shall appoint representatives to Conference committees for which the Association has no counterparts. Such committees shall operate within a budget provided at the time of the request.~~

~~D – THE VICE-MODERATOR~~

- ~~21. The Vice-Moderator shall assist the Moderator in his/her duties and when requested by the Moderator or in the Moderator's absence shall act for him/her.~~
- ~~22. When a vacancy occurs in the office of Moderator, the Vice-Moderator shall assume all rights and duties of the Moderator until the next regular meeting of the Association.~~

E – SECRETARY

- ~~23. The Secretary shall keep accurate and permanent minutes of the meetings of this Association and the Association Council.~~

F – TREASURER

- ~~24. The Treasurer shall maintain Association financial records, submit a written report monthly to the Association Council and submit a written report to the Association Annual Meeting.~~

G – THE ASSOCIATION COUNCIL

- ~~25. The Association Council shall employ such personnel as this Association may determine.~~
- ~~26. The Association Council shall be responsible for the program at Association meetings.~~
- ~~27. The Association Council shall have the power to fill vacancies in any office or committee for unexpired terms.~~
- ~~28. The Association Council may meet in executive session as needed.~~
- ~~29. The Association Council shall receive the minutes of the Annual Meeting and take appropriate action on them.~~

H – COMMITTEES APPOINTED ANNUALLY BY THE ASSOCIATION COUNCIL

- ~~30. The Budget and Finance Committee shall be responsible for the total financial concerns of this Association. It shall concur with the Budget and Finance Committee of the Ohio Conference. It shall study the finances of this Association and shall submit a detailed budget for the following year to the Council and Association for approval. It shall provide for the expenses of the Annual Meeting. It shall be directly responsible to the Association Council, and make provisions for corporate security bonding for all persons handling Association funds.~~

ARTICLE XI. STANDING COMMITTEES

A. COMMITTEE ON MINISTRY

- a. The Association, inasmuch as it is practical, and unless superseded by other language in these bylaws, will follow the policies, procedures and guidelines of the United Church of Christ Manual on Ministry, and the**

Constitution and Bylaws of the United Church of Christ, in regard to persons seeking authorization and those holding authorization and standing within the Association. The authority is given to the Committee on Ministry for implementation.

- b. There shall be twenty-seven (27) members of the Committee; two-thirds of its members shall be ordained and one-third shall be laity. Members of the Committee on Ministry shall be elected by the Association for a three (3) year term and may be elected for a second term.
- c. They shall coordinate and evaluate all areas related to preparation for ministry, the standing and oversight of clergy, clergy leadership development and continuing education.

B. NOMINATING COMMITTEE

- a. There are nine (9) members of the Committee comprised of both clergy and laity. They shall be elected for a three-year (3) term and are not eligible to serve two consecutive terms.
- b. The Committee shall be responsible for nominating officers and members of the Association Council, the Committee on Ministry, and as asked, members of the Ohio Conference General Synod Delegation.

C. PERSONNEL COMMITTEE

- a. There are six (6) members of the Committee comprised of both clergy and laity. They shall be elected for a three-year (3) term and may be eligible for a second term.
- b. The Committee shall be responsible for the total personnel and staff concerns of the Association including the approval of annual staff compensation recommendations. It shall be directly responsible to the Association Council. The Association General Minister, or designated staff person, shall be a staff consultant to this committee.

~~The Personnel Committee shall consist of no fewer than six members. Given that all staff is now shared with the Western Reserve Association, membership on this committee will be divided equally from the two Associations. It shall be responsible for the total personnel and staff concerns of this Association, including recommendations regarding salaries. It shall concur with and participate in the work of the Personnel Committee of the Ohio Conference. It shall prepare job descriptions and seek qualified candidates for vacancies. It shall be directly responsible to the Association Council. The Association General Minister or designated staff person shall be a staff consultant to this committee.~~

I—COMMITTEES ELECTED AT THE ANNUAL MEETING

- 32. The terms of the members of these committees shall be three years each and shall be so arranged that approximately one-third of each committee is elected at each

Annual Meeting of the Association. After serving two full terms, no elected member shall be eligible to succeed himself/herself. If without sufficient cause a member fails to assume the responsibilities to which elected, the Moderator shall seek to activate the individual, and failing to do so, shall request his/her resignation.

33. The Nominating Committee shall consist of nine persons, of whom not more than five shall be clergy and not more than five shall be lay persons. They shall be elected for a term of three years and not eligible to serve two consecutive full terms. The committee shall nominate all candidates for elective positions unless otherwise provided in these Bylaws. Insofar as practical to do so, the Nominating Committee shall endeavor to achieve a balanced representation of members on the Association Council and all Committees of the Association, with particular attention being given to such factors as age, sex, geographical location, and size of home church, etc.
34. The Committee on Ministry shall consist of eighteen (18) members, 1/3 lay and 2/3 clergy. They shall coordinate and evaluate all areas related to Preparation for Ordination, Commissioned, Licensed, Partners in Ministry, Ordination, and standing of clergy and churches; clergy leadership development, continuing education and regional seminary support (CUE).
35. There shall be an allocation for Committees in the Association budget, expenditure of funds not budgeted shall first be reviewed by the Budget and Finance Committee. Persons may be co-opted, by a majority vote of its members, to serve with any Committee for one year's work. Co-opted members shall have a voice and may have a vote with the Committee's approval, but shall not be counted in the determination of a quorum.

ARTICLE XII. FISCAL YEAR

- A. The fiscal year of the Association shall coincide with the calendar year.
- B. The Association Council shall be responsible for ensuring adequate resources for the ministry and operations of the Association.
- C. A Committee appointed by the Association Council will develop an annual budget. The Association, at its annual meeting, shall approve the operational budget for the upcoming year

ARTICLE V – FINANCE

- ~~36. This Association shall be financed primarily by local churches, but may also receive support through income from endowment funds, investments or other sources of income. It is recognized that the Ohio Conference and the General Synod are to receive annual support for their respective budgets from agreed upon percentages~~

~~or dollar amounts from contributions from local churches for Our Church's Wider Mission. The agreed upon percentage referred to shall be determined annually for the next fiscal year by the Association Council, in consultation with the Budget and Finance Committee of the Ohio Conference. All member churches of this Association shall be encouraged to remit Our Church's Wider Mission money to the Treasurer of this Association. The Treasurer will maintain financial records, etc. as provided in Article IV, section 24.~~

Page

ARTICLE VI – SCHEDULE

~~37. These Bylaws shall take effect at the same time as the Constitution to which they are appended.~~

ARTICLE VII – MISSION/VISION

~~38. THE MISSION OF THE EASTERN OHIO ASSOCIATION~~

~~Working together to provide services and opportunities, as congregations of the Eastern Ohio Association of the United Church of Christ, seeking faithfully to be the church in our communities and to join with others in extending the mission of Jesus Christ to the world.~~

~~39. THE VISION OF THE EASTERN OHIO ASSOCIATION~~

~~Churches, individually and together, fulfilling the mission of Jesus Christ in the world.~~

ARTICLE XIII. AMENDMENTS

- A. Amendments to this Constitution may be proposed by the Association Council or by at least five per cent (5%) of the local churches with standing in the Association. Proposed amendments shall be submitted in writing to the Association Council at least two months prior to the meeting at which they are to be considered.
- B. Notice of such amendments shall be transmitted in writing to the members of the Association at least thirty days prior to the meeting at which they are to be considered. This Constitution may be amended by a two-thirds affirmative vote at any regular or special meeting of the Association, provided that members have been advised in writing of the proposed amendments not less than thirty days prior to the meeting

