

December 15, 2010

Dear UCC Colleagues and friends,

We want to register our strong enthusiasm for the Unified Governance proposal which was received by the Executive Council in October 2010.

We believe that implementing this proposal will strengthen the mission of the church in numerous ways. A unified board will allow the United Church of Christ:

- to engage the best practices of good governance
- to be both strategic and comprehensive in our visioning, planning and policy setting
- to be more effective in our stewardship of OCWM contributions
- to be accountable to General Synod in our fiscal oversight
- to be more effective in our development and acquisition of other resources to advance God's mission for the church

By recognizing that "the whole church is called to participate in God's mission" the implementation of this proposal will promote and encourage "broad and robust opportunities for all of the settings of the church to engage in mission together."

Finally, we affirm the proposal's commitment to make the Board diverse - including members who will bring a range of life situations. We also affirm that Board members will bring "the knowledge, competencies, skills and experiences needed to serve effectively and faithfully."

Grateful for the efforts of the Unified Governance Working Group, we urge that this proposal be adopted by Synod and ratified by the Conferences.

In hope and expectation,

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|--------------------------------|---------------------|----------------------------------|----------------------------|---------------------|-----------------------------------|
| Douglas Anders [†] | Conference Minister | South Central Conference, UCC | Alan Miller | Conference Minister | Penn Northeast Conference, UCC |
| Jim Antal [‡] | Conference Minister | Massachusetts Conference, UCC | Russ Mitman | Conference Minister | Penn Southeast Conference, UCC |
| Chuck Barnes [†] | Conference Minister | Rhode Island Conference, UCC | Bob Molsberry [†] | Conference Minister | Ohio Conference, UCC |
| Krista Betz | Interim Conf. Min. | Kansas-Oklahoma Conference, UCC | David Moyer | Conference Minister | Wisconsin Conference, UCC |
| Walter John Boris [†] | Conference Minister | Central Pacific Conference, UCC | Rich Pleva [‡] | Conference Minister | Iowa Conference, UCC |
| Charles Buck | Conference Minister | Hawaii Conference, UCC | Vertie Powers | Acting Conf. Min. | Southern Conference, UCC |
| Marja Coons-Torn | Conference Minister | Penn Central Conference, UCC | Tom Rehling | Conference Minister | Rocky Mountain Conference, UCC |
| Sheldon Culver | Conference Minister | Illinois South Conference, UCC | Rita Root | Interim Conf. Min. | New York Conference, UCC |
| John Deckenback [†] | Conference Minister | Central Atlantic Conference, UCC | Gary Schulte | Conference Minister | New Hampshire Conference, UCC |
| Tim Downs | Conference Minister | Southeast Conference, UCC | Karen Smith Sellers | Conference Minister | Minnesota Conference, UCC |
| Roddy Dunkerson [†] | Conference Minister | Nebraska Conference, UCC | Kent J. Siladi | Conference Minister | Florida Conference |
| David Felton | Interim Conf. Min. | South Dakota Conference, UCC | Felix Villanueva | Conference Minister | So. Calif. Nevada Conference, UCC |
| John Gantt | Interim Conf. Min. | Indiana-Kentucky Conference, UCC | Chuck Wildman | Interim Conf. Min. | Connecticut Conference, UCC |
| Mary Susan Gast | Conference Minister | N. California Nevada Conf., UCC | Judith Youngman | Conference Minister | Michigan Conference, UCC |
| Randy Hyvonen | Conference Minsiter | Montana N. Wyoming Conf., UCC | | | |
| Alan McLarty | Conference Minister | Penn West Conference, UCC | | | |

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