

**United Methodist Association of Communicators (UMAC)
By-Laws**

Current – (Adopted February 2019)	
ARTICLE I: PURPOSE	
<p>The purpose of the organization shall be to provide an arena where United Methodist communicators can:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Have a voice and representation in the denominational agencies of the church. 2. Participate in and support training and continuing education events related to their needs; 3. Develop and receive services based on common concerns; 4. Provide support, fellowship and an opportunity to expand professional relationships. <p>The United Methodist Association of Communicators is organized exclusively for charitable, religious, educational, or scientific purposes, including, for such purposes, the making of distributions to organizations that qualify as exempt organizations under section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code, or the corresponding section of any future federal tax code.</p> <p>In furtherance of its exempt purposes within the meaning of section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code, the organization is organized and operated exclusively for the benefit of, to perform the functions of, or to carry out the purposes of United Methodist Communications and is operated, supervised or controlled by United Methodist Communications.</p>	

ARTICLE II: MEMBERSHIP		
<p>Anyone meeting any of the following criteria may become a member of UMAC by following publicized registration procedures and submitting annual dues to the Treasurer.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Any person working as an employee or volunteer in communications in any United Methodist local church, district, annual conference, jurisdiction, general church board or agency, or any related institution, such as a hospital or college. 2. Any United Methodist working in communications and who is not employed by The United Methodist Church. 3. The Leadership Team shall set policies and fees for each membership category. 		
ARTICLE III: MEETINGS		
Section 1.	An annual membership meeting shall be held in such place and on such date as shall be determined by the Leadership Team.	
Section 2.	Special meetings of the membership may be called at the discretion of the Leadership Team. A quorum shall consist of at least 10 percent of UMAC membership, provided all members shall have received notice of the time and place of the meeting 30 days prior to that meeting.	
Section 3.	All meetings of the Leadership Team shall be open to members of the organization for observation, with visitors having no voice and no vote. One-half of the members of	

	the Leadership Team shall be necessary and sufficient to constitute a quorum for the transaction of business.	
Section 4.	The style of decision-making for UMAC shall be by consensus where possible. Otherwise, the current edition of Robert's Rules of Order shall govern the organization in all cases to which they are applicable and in which they are not inconsistent with these by-laws and any special rules of order the organization may adopt. The Vice-Chairperson shall serve as Parliamentarian as required.	
	ARTICLE IV: LEADERSHIP TEAM	
Section 1.	<p>The Leadership Team shall conduct the direction and administration of the Association between membership meetings.</p> <p>The 13 members of the Leadership Team each serve in a specific role that utilizes their individual skills to maximize the team's effectiveness in serving the Association. The roles each serves are determined by the Leadership Team.</p>	
Section 2	The Leadership Team shall consist of 12 members chosen by vote of the membership and one ex-officio Executive Director, who has both voice and vote. The Executive Director is appointed by United Methodist	

	<p>Communications and serves as the liaison between the agency and UMAC.</p> <p>Non-appointed Leadership Team members are elected in three four-person classes and serve a two-year term. Elected Leadership Team members may be re-elected to serve one (1) additional two-year term.</p>	
Section 3.	<p>The Leadership Team shall meet as the occasion requires but not fewer than six (6) times each year. The meetings may be conducted by telephone conference call, digital communications (e-mail, online conference etc.) or by other appropriate means including face-to-face gatherings.</p>	
Section 4.	<p>At all times, at least sixty percent (60%) of the members of the organization's Leadership Team must be approved by United Methodist Communications, an organization required to act in accordance with <i>The Book of Discipline of The United Methodist Church</i>.</p>	
	<p>ARTICLE V: OFFICERS</p>	
Section 1.	<p>Annually, the Leadership Team shall elect from among its team the following officers: Chairperson, Vice-Chairperson, Treasurer, and Secretary.</p>	

	ARTICLE VI: AMENDMENT OF THE BY-LAWS	
Section 1.	The By-Laws may be amended by any membership meeting by two-thirds of those present and voting.	
Section 2.	The By-Laws also may be amended by mail ballot, at the discretion of the Leadership Team. The amendment shall be adopted if approved by two-thirds of the vote cast and ratified by the General Commission of Communications of The United Methodist Church.	
Section 3.	The Chairperson and Vice Chairperson of the Leadership Team shall review the By-Laws annually and recommend changes to the membership at the annual meeting. The membership may also call for a review of the By-Laws by a simple majority vote of those present and voting at the annual meeting.	
Section 4.	<p>ANTI-AMENDMENT CLAUSE: Any amendments to the following provisions shall require the approval of United Methodist Communications:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Article I – the Purpose Clause, • Article VII – the Prohibitions and Limitations Clauses, • Article IV, Section 4 – the Related Category I Organization Clauses, • Article VIII – the Dissolution Clause, and • Article VI, Section 4 – the Anti-Amendment Clause. 	
	ARTICLE VII: PROHIBITIONS & LIMITATIONS	

	<p>No part of the net earnings of the organization shall inure to the benefit of, or be distributable to its members, trustees, officers, or other private persons, except that the organization shall be authorized and empowered to pay reasonable compensation for services rendered and to make payments and distributions in furtherance of the exempt purposes of the organization.</p> <p>No substantial part of the activities of the organization shall be the carrying on of propaganda, or otherwise attempting to influence legislation, and the organization shall not participate in, or intervene in (including the publishing or distribution of statements) any political campaign on behalf of or in opposition to any candidate for public office.</p> <p>Notwithstanding any other provision herein, this organization shall not, except to an insubstantial degree, engage in any activities or exercise any powers that are not in furtherance of the purposes of this organization.</p>	
	<p>ARTICLE VIII: DISSOLUTION</p>	
	<p>Upon the dissolution of the organization, all assets of the organization remaining after all liabilities and obligations of the organization have been paid, satisfied and discharged, will be transferred, conveyed, and distributed to United Methodist Communications.</p> <p>If on the date of such proposed distribution, United Methodist Communications is no longer in existence or does not qualify for exempt status under §501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code, or the corresponding section of any</p>	

	<p>future federal tax code, the assets of the organization shall be transferred, conveyed, and distributed to the United Methodist entity (the “Successor Organization”) entitled under <i>The Book of Discipline of The United Methodist Church</i>, or by other General Conference, Jurisdictional Conference, Annual Conference, or District action, to receive the assets of United Methodist Communications upon its dissolution.</p> <p>If pursuant to the preceding paragraphs, the organization’s assets are to be distributed to the Successor Organization, but on the date of the proposed distribution, the Successor Organization is no longer in existence or does not qualify for exempt status under §501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code, or the corresponding section of any future federal tax code, the assets of the organization shall be transferred, conveyed, and distributed to such other United Methodist related organization(s) as may be specified in, or provided for, under a Plan of Distribution adopted by this organization; provided, however, that in any event, each such distributee organization shall be exempt under the provisions of §501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code, or the corresponding section of any future federal tax code.</p>	
	<p>ARTICLE IX: EFFECTIVE DATE</p>	
	<p>The By-Laws of this organization shall be put into effect when approved by two-thirds of the members present and voting.</p>	

