

BYLAW AMENDMENT PROPOSAL

Amendment Proposal Form

Sponsor of this Amendment Proposal: Council of Elders

Article to be amended: Article V.E.3.

Amendment Proposal

Affected Section	Article V.E.3. Council of Elders
Original Language	COUNCIL OF ELDERS: The Council of Elders of the UFMCC is that body authorized by the General Conference to serve in a pastoral role and direct the spiritual life of the Fellowship. This Council shall consist of a Moderator and Elders appointed by the Moderator, subject to approval by the Governing Board and affirmation by General Conference. All UFMCC Elders are deemed professional ministers and are authorized to perform all of the Rites and Sacraments of the church.
Strikethrough Language	COUNCIL OF ELDERS: The Council of Elders of the UFMCC is that body authorized by the General Conference to serve in a pastoral role and direct the spiritual life of the Fellowship. This Council shall consist of a Moderator and Elders appointed by the Moderator, subject to approval by the Governing Board and affirmation by General Conference. All UFMCC Elders current and former members of the Council of Elders, who have not been removed from the Council of Elders or otherwise disciplined resulting in the removal of the title of "Elder" , are deemed professional ministers and are authorized to perform all of the Rites and Sacraments of the church.
Final Proposed Language	COUNCIL OF ELDERS: The Council of Elders of the UFMCC is that body authorized by the General Conference to serve in a pastoral role and direct the spiritual life of the Fellowship. This Council shall consist of a Moderator and Elders appointed by the Moderator, subject to approval by the Governing Board and affirmation by General Conference. All current and former members of the Council of Elders, who have not been removed from the Council of Elders or otherwise disciplined resulting in the removal of the title of "Elder", are deemed professional ministers and are authorized to perform all of the Rites and Sacraments of the church.
Rationale	The historic interpretation of this Bylaw is that all former members of the Council of Elders, including lay Elders, retain the status of "professional ministers" who are authorized to perform all the Rites and Sacraments of the church, even though they no longer serve on the Council of Elders. There has been some recent confusion concerning this status as applied to former lay members of the Council of Elders. As a matter of clarification and equity, and for purposes of alignment with the historic interpretation of this Bylaw, this language makes it

BYLAW AMENDMENT PROPOSAL

Amendment Proposal Form

	clear that former lay members of the COE continue to be professional ministers of the denomination who are authorized to perform all the Rites and Sacraments of the denomination.
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Council of Elders Impact Statement on Amendments to V.E.3

1. The proposal's compatibility with UFMCC's Values, Mission, and Vision: This proposal is compatible with the UFMCC's values, mission and vision of the core values of inclusion, community, and justice, as well as affirming the priesthood of all believers (Art. IV. "The UFMCC affirms the universal priesthood of all believers (1 Peter 2:5-10). All members of the Church are called by God to a ministry of the Gospel of Christ in the Church and in the world."). This proposed Bylaw amendment is in line with the historic understanding of the status of former lay members of the Council of Elders (COE). It also is inclusive because it recognizes that lay Elders who serve, or have served, on the COE perform the role of a professional minister and this spiritual role continues after service on the COE. This proposed Bylaw amendment also fosters community because it treats all Elders equally, regardless of the status of clergy or laity, and it provides the denomination (the community) with well-trained professional ministers even after the Elder has served his or her term on the COE. Finally, this proposed Bylaw amendment is a justice issue because it recognizes that lay Elders, who have performed as professional ministers during their term on the COE, are deserving of maintaining that role, just as their clergy counterparts do.
2. The proposal's potential financial impact: This amendment has no potential financial impact.
3. Other Bylaws provisions which would be affected by the current proposal: No other Bylaw provisions would be affected by the current proposal.

Governing Board Impact Statement on Amendments to V.E.3

1. The proposal's compatibility with UFMCC's Values, Mission, and Vision: Consistent
2. The proposal's potential financial impact: Not Applicable
3. Other Bylaws provisions which would be affected by the current proposal: Not Applicable

Bylaw Amendment Proposal Amendment Proposal Form

Sponsor of this Amendment Proposal: Elder Nancy Maxwell on Behalf of the COE

Article to be amended: Bylaw Article V.E.3.b. and d.

Amendment Proposal

Affected Section	Article V.E.3.b. and d. Government Organization and Officers, Fellowship, Council of Elders, Duties and Vacancies
Original Language	<p>b. DUTIES: The primary responsibility of Elders shall be to give pastoral leadership and care to enable the Fellowship in our spiritual journey. The Elders shall exercise spiritual and pastoral authority to build a shared vision for the UFMCC, prepare UFMCC for the future, and support UFMCC's strategic direction. The Elders serve as official representatives of the Fellowship in the areas of public and community relations; provide oversight of and support to congregations; consult with churches on issues related to church development; and fulfill other ecclesial and ceremonial duties.</p> <p>d. VACANCIES: In the event of a vacancy, the Moderator may appoint someone who meets the qualifications to fill the vacancy, subject to the approval of the Governing Board.</p>
Strikethrough Language	<p>b. DUTIES: The primary responsibility of Elders shall be to give pastoral leadership and care to enable the Fellowship in our spiritual journey. The Elders shall exercise spiritual and pastoral authority to build a shared vision for the UFMCC, prepare UFMCC for the future, and support UFMCC's strategic direction. The Elders serve as official representatives of the Fellowship in the areas of public and community relations; provide oversight of and support to congregations; consult with churches on issues related to church development; and fulfill other ecclesial and ceremonial duties.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">* * *</p> <p>d. VACANCIES: In the event of a vacancy, the Moderator may appoint someone who meets the qualifications to fill the vacancy, subject to the approval of the Governing Board.</p>
Final Proposed Language	<p>b. DUTIES: The primary responsibility of Elders shall be to give pastoral leadership and care to enable the Fellowship in our spiritual journey. The Elders shall exercise spiritual and pastoral</p>

	<p>authority to build a shared vision for the UFMCC, prepare UFMCC for the future, and support UFMCC’s strategic direction. The Elders serve as official representatives of the Fellowship in the areas of public and community relations; provide support to congregations; consult with churches on issues related to church development; and fulfill other ecclesial and ceremonial duties.</p>
<p>Rationale</p>	<p>Amendment to subsection b. Duties: The Council of Elders (COE) no longer has oversight duties vis-à-vis the churches. This Elder duty was removed in the restructuring of the denomination in 2010. Removal of subsection d. Vacancies: There is no such thing as a vacancy on the COE. The Bylaws do not provide a specific number of Elders to serve on the COE.</p>

Council of Elders Impact Statement on Amendments to V.E.3.b. and d.

1. The proposal’s compatibility with UFMCC’s Values, Mission, and Vision: Both proposals are in alignment with the current UFMCC structure, in which the Elders no longer have oversight duties with MCC churches and it is not possible to have any vacancies on the COE because the UFMCC Bylaws do not contain a specific number of Elders on the COE.
2. The proposal’s potential financial impact: Not Applicable
3. Other Bylaws provisions which would be affected by the current proposal: Not Applicable

Governing Board Impact Statement on Amendments to to V.E.3.b. and d.

1. The proposal’s compatibility with UFMCC’s Values, Mission, and Vision: Consistent
2. The proposal’s potential financial impact: Not Applicable
3. Other Bylaws provisions which would be affected by the current proposal: Not Applicable

BYLAW AMENDMENT PROPOSAL

Amendment Proposal Form

Sponsor of this Amendment Proposal: Council of Elders

Article to be amended: Bylaw Article VIII.A.2.b.

Amendment Proposal

Affected Section	Bylaw Article VIII.A.2.b. Lay House
Original Language	LAY HOUSE: Members of the Lay House are Lay Delegates; the Interim Pastoral Leader of each affiliated church when that Interim Pastoral Leader is a member of UFMCC; and the members of the Council of Elders and of the Governing Board who are not clergy or Lay Delegates and are members of UFMCC.
Strikethrough Language	LAY HOUSE: Members of the Lay House are: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Lay Delegates; 2. The Interim Pastoral Leader of each affiliated church when that Interim Pastoral Leader is a member of UFMCC; and the members of the Council of Elders and of the Governing Board who are not clergy or Lay Delegates and are members of UFMCC. 3. Members of the Governing Board who are not clergy or Lay Delegates and are members of UFMCC; and 4. Members and former members of the Council of Elders, who have not been removed from the Council of Elders or otherwise disciplined resulting in the removal of the title of "Elder".
Final Proposed Language	Article VIII.A.2.b. LAY HOUSE: Members of the Lay House are: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Lay Delegates; 2. The Interim Pastoral Leader of each affiliated church when that Interim Pastoral Leader is a member of UFMCC; 3. Members of the Governing Board who are not clergy or Lay Delegates and are members of UFMCC; and 4. Members and former members of the Council of Elders, who have not been removed from the Council of Elders or otherwise disciplined resulting in the removal of the title of "Elder".

BYLAW AMENDMENT PROPOSAL

Amendment Proposal Form

Rationale	<p>Under the current language of this Bylaw, only lay Elders who are “members of the Council of Elders” have voice and vote at General Conference. The proposed amendment would allow former lay Elders to have voice and vote at General Conference. Currently, this Bylaw impacts former members of the Council of Elders inequitably by treating lay Elders differently from former clergy members. Former clergy Elders are allowed voice and vote at General Conference, because of their status as ordained clergy. However, like ordained clergy (and unlike being a member of the Governing Board), being a lay Elder is a spiritual call, a spiritual role, and the recognition of an Elder’s spiritual persona in the denomination continues beyond an Elder’s service on the COE. In fact, this distinction is recognized in the Elder Chronology, which states:</p> <p><u>“Use of the Honorific Title “Elder”</u></p> <p>It is a custom that former Elders hold the honorific title of "Elder" as long as they continue to abide by the Elders Code of Ethics and the Code of Conduct for MCC Ministry Leaders. Therefore, all former members of the old Board of Elders and the Council of Elders are referred to as "Elder" although they are no longer active members of the Council of Elders.</p> <p>Consequently, there should be no distinction between former members of the Council of Elders, regardless of whether they are former lay Elders or former clergy Elders.</p>
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BYLAW AMENDMENT PROPOSAL

Amendment Proposal Form

Council of Elders Impact Statement on Amendments to VIII.A.2.b.

1. The proposal's compatibility with UFMCC's Values, Mission, and Vision: This proposal is compatible with the UFMCC's values, mission and vision because the changes meet the core values of inclusion, community, and justice, as well as affirming the priesthood of all believers (Art. IV. "The UFMCC affirms the universal priesthood of all believers (1 Peter 2:5-10). All members of the Church are called by God to a ministry of the Gospel of Christ in the Church and in the world.")

This proposed Bylaw amendment is inclusive because it recognizes that lay Elders who serve, or have served, on the Council of Elders (COE) should have the same status as their clergy Elders. Retired clergy Elders, as well as retired clergy, have voice and vote at General Conference and this status should include retired lay Elders. This proposed Bylaw amendment also fosters community because it treats all Elders equally, regardless of the status of clergy or laity, and it provides the denomination (the community) with the wisdom and perspective of retired lay Elders in the future of the denomination by according retired lay Elders voice and vote at General Conference. Finally, this proposed Bylaw amendment is a justice issue because it recognizes that lay Elders, who have performed as professional ministers during their term on the COE, a spiritual role in the denomination, are deserving of having voice and vote at General Conference, just as their retired clergy counterparts do.

2. The proposal's potential financial impact: This amendment has no potential financial impact other than staff time in preparation for General Conference by including former lay Elders in the voting pool (currently 3 individuals).
3. Other Bylaws provisions which would be affected by the current proposal: Not Applicable

Governing Board Impact Statement on Amendments to VIII.A.2.b.

1. The proposal's compatibility with UFMCC's Values, Mission, and Vision: This motion appears inconsistent with our current mode. It is based on the assumption that Elders who leave the Council of Elders then retain the ability to vote because of their Elder status. They are not voting in that role, but in their role as clergy. Extending the vote to Lay Elders upon their leaving in Council of Elders raises the question of Lay Leaders serving on the Governing Board. Both are seen as spiritual callings. We affirm that the Lay Ministry in both these areas enriches both MCC denominationally and the Churches of MCC. Both these areas are seen as spiritual callings and are viewed as equitable in role. There is no hierarchy of Spiritual Callings.
2. The proposal's potential financial impact: Not Applicable
3. Other Bylaws provisions which would be affected by the current proposal: Not Applicable

BYLAW AMENDMENT PROPOSAL

Amendment Proposal Form

Bylaw Amendment Proposal

Proposed Bylaw Amendment

- Sponsor of this Amendment Proposal: Council of Elders and Governing Board
- Article to be amended: Article V.B.2.e

Current Language -	Proposed Language
<p>DISAFFILIATION: Disaffiliated congregations may not continue to use the name Metropolitan Community Church (MCC) or in any manner hold themselves out as being associated with UFMCC or as being an MCC church.</p> <p>i. DISAFFILIATION BY AN AFFILIATED CHURCH: Should a local church desire to disaffiliate from the UFMCC, a representative or representatives appointed by the Moderator must be allowed to meet with the congregation and shall have voice at the Congregational Meeting called for the purpose of disaffiliating. The decision to</p>	<p>DISAFFILIATION: Disaffiliated congregations may not continue to use the name Metropolitan Community Church (MCC) or in any manner hold themselves out as being associated with UFMCC or as being an MCC church.</p> <p>i. DISAFFILIATION BY AN AFFILIATED CHURCH: Should a local church desire to disaffiliate from the UFMCC, a representative or representatives appointed by the Moderator must be allowed to meet with the congregation, in person or virtually, and shall have voice at the Congregational Meeting called for the purpose of disaffiliating. The decision to disaffiliate must receive a two-thirds (2/3) vote of the Members present at a duly called Congregational Meeting called for the purpose of disaffiliating.</p>

Bylaw Amendment Proposal

disaffiliate must receive a two-thirds (2/3) vote of the Members present at a duly called Congregational Meeting called for the purpose of disaffiliating.

- ii.** NOTIFICATION TO UFMCC: At least sixty (60) calendar days prior to a Congregational Meeting called for the purpose of disaffiliating, the local church shall notify the Moderator in writing that such a Congregational Meeting will be held. The written notification to the Moderator shall include: (a) the date, time, and place of the Congregational Meeting; and (b) a copy of the local church membership list. Except in the event of the death or resignation of a listed Member, no Members may thereafter be removed from membership in the local church and no Members may be added to the membership in the local church until after the Congregational Meeting called for the purpose of disaffiliating. Except in the event of the death or resignation of a listed Member, no Members may thereafter be removed from membership in the local church and no Members may be added to the membership in the local church until

- ii.** NOTIFICATION TO UFMCC: At least six (6) months prior to a Congregational Meeting called for the purpose of disaffiliating, the local church shall notify the Moderator in writing that the congregation is discerning disaffiliation. The written notification to the Moderator shall include a comprehensive explanation of why disaffiliation is being considered. Upon receiving this notification, the Moderator shall inform the appropriate MCC staff, Governing Board, and Council of Elders. Within 10 working days the church shall receive notice that the notification has been received and within 14 working days the Moderator shall appoint a group comprised of MCC staff, Governing Board and Council of Elders members shall meet (in person or virtually) with the pastoral leadership and Board of Directors of the church. The purpose of the initial meeting will be to establish healthy and holy conversation around discerning disaffiliation and to seek resolution to the

Bylaw Amendment Proposal

after the Congregational Meeting called for the purpose of disaffiliating.

issues leading to this potential decision. Over the six (6) month period, the group shall meet no less than three (3) times and the denominational representatives shall be allowed to speak with church members and to solicit congregational feedback. If there is a desire to work through the differences, UFMCC will facilitate bringing in a third party to mediate the reconciliation process. If at the end of the six months, church leadership still desires to move ahead with calling a congregational vote to disaffiliate, at least sixty (60) calendar days prior to a Congregational Meeting called for the purpose of disaffiliating, the local church shall notify the Moderator in writing that such a Congregational Meeting will be held. The written notification to the Moderator shall include: (a) the date, time, and place of the Congregational Meeting; and (b) a copy of the local church membership list. Except in the event of the death or resignation of a listed Member, no Members may thereafter be removed from membership in the local church and no Members may be added to the membership in the local church until after the

Bylaw Amendment Proposal

iii. NOTIFICATION TO MEMBERS: At least thirty (30) calendar days prior to a Congregational Meeting called for the purpose of disaffiliating, all Members of the local church must be notified in writing at their last known address on the membership list of the date, time, place, and purpose of the Congregational Meeting called for the purpose of disaffiliating. A copy of the notification to members shall be simultaneously submitted to the Moderator.

- Congregational Meeting called for the purpose of disaffiliating.
- iii.** NOTIFICATION TO MEMBERS: At the time that the local church notifies the Office of the Moderator in writing that the congregation is discerning disaffiliation, the church membership will be notified that this information has been sent to UFMCC. At the end of the six-month discernment period, if church leadership still desires to move ahead with calling a congregational vote to disaffiliate then at least thirty (30) calendar days prior to a Congregational Meeting called for the purpose of disaffiliating, all Members of the local church must be notified in writing at their last known address on the membership list of the date, time, place, and purpose of the Congregational Meeting called for the purpose of disaffiliating. A copy of the notification to members shall be simultaneously submitted to the Moderator.
- iv.** VOTING PROCESS: Voting at the Congregational Meeting, **whether held in person or virtually**, called for the purpose of disaffiliating shall be done by secret ballot.
- v.** CONTINUING AFFILIATION: In the event that a congregation votes to disaffiliate,

Bylaw Amendment Proposal

<p>iv. VOTING PROCESS: Voting at the Congregational Meeting called for the purpose of disaffiliating shall be done by secret ballot.</p> <p>v. CONTINUING AFFILIATION: In the event that a congregation votes to disaffiliate, those members of the congregation wishing to continue affiliation with UFMCC may be designated by the Moderator as the continuing Metropolitan Community Church affiliated with the UFMCC.</p> <p>vi. DISPOSITION OF ASSETS: After existing financial obligations to the UFMCC are met, the disaffiliating local church has the right to net assets.</p> <p>vii. NOTIFICATION TO AFFECTED THIRD PARTIES: In the event that a congregation votes to disaffiliate, the UFMCC shall notify affected third parties that the disaffiliated congregation is no longer associated with the UFMCC and that the disaffiliated</p>	<p>those members of the congregation wishing to continue affiliation with UFMCC may be designated by the Moderator in consultation with MCC staff, Governing Board and Council of Elders, as the continuing Metropolitan Community Church affiliated with the UFMCC. This information shall be shared with all members during the six (6) month discernment process in verbal and written forms of communication, as well as at the Congregational Meeting called for the purpose of voting on disaffiliation.</p> <p>vi. Disaffiliating churches will make a financial contribution to the ongoing ministry of the UFMCC and to honor the intentions of those who have tithed and offered their financial resources to the church throughout its history as a UFMCC congregation. The contribution will be 5% on the value of existing assets.</p> <p>vii. DISPOSITION OF ASSETS: After existing financial obligations to the UFMCC are met, the disaffiliating local church has the right to net assets.</p>
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Bylaw Amendment Proposal

<p>congregation may not hold itself out as being an MCC church. Affected third parties include, but are not limited to, banks, creditors, and government agencies that issued corporation/registration status to the disaffiliated church.</p>	<p>viii. NOTIFICATION TO AFFECTED THIRD PARTIES: In the event that a congregation votes to disaffiliate, the UFMCC shall notify affected third parties that the disaffiliated congregation is no longer associated with the UFMCC and that the disaffiliated congregation may not hold itself out as being an MCC church. Affected third parties include, but are not limited to, banks, creditors, and government agencies that issued corporation/registration status to the disaffiliated church.</p>
<p>Final Proposed Language</p>	<p>DISAFFILIATION: Disaffiliated congregations may not continue to use the name Metropolitan Community Church (MCC) or in any manner hold themselves out as being associated with UFMCC or as being an MCC church.</p> <p>ix. DISAFFILIATION BY AN AFFILIATED CHURCH: Should a local church desire to disaffiliate from the UFMCC, a representative or representatives appointed by the Moderator must be allowed to meet with the congregation, in person or virtually, and shall have voice at the Congregational Meeting called for the purpose of disaffiliating. The decision to disaffiliate</p>

Bylaw Amendment Proposal

	<p>must receive a two-thirds (2/3) vote of the Members present at a duly called Congregational Meeting called for the purpose of disaffiliating.</p> <p>x. NOTIFICATION TO UFMCC: At least six (6) months prior to a Congregational Meeting called for the purpose of disaffiliating, the local church shall notify the Moderator in writing that the congregation is discerning disaffiliation. The written notification to the Moderator shall include a comprehensive explanation of why disaffiliation is being considered. Upon receiving this notification, the Moderator shall inform the appropriate MCC staff, Governing Board, and Council of Elders. Within 10 working days the church shall receive notice that the notification has been received and within 14 working days the Moderator shall appoint a group comprised of MCC staff, Governing Board and Council of Elders members shall meet (in person or virtually) with the pastoral leadership and Board of Directors of the church. The purpose of the initial meeting will be to establish healthy</p>
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Bylaw Amendment Proposal

	<p>and holy conversation around discerning disaffiliation and to seek resolution to the issues leading to this potential decision. Over the six (6) month period, the group shall meet no less than three (3) times and the denominational representatives shall be allowed to speak with church members and to solicit congregational feedback. If there is a desire to work through the differences, UFMCC will facilitate bringing in a third party to mediate the reconciliation process. If at the end of the six months, church leadership still desires to move ahead with calling a congregational vote to disaffiliate, at least sixty (60) calendar days prior to a Congregational Meeting called for the purpose of disaffiliating, the local church shall notify the Office of the Moderator in writing that such a Congregational Meeting will be held. The written notification to the Moderator shall include: (a) the date, time, and place of the Congregational Meeting; and (b) a copy of the local church membership list. Except in the event of the death or resignation of a listed Member, no Members may thereafter be removed from membership in the local church and no Members may be added to the membership</p>
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Bylaw Amendment Proposal

	<p>in the local church until after the Congregational Meeting called for the purpose of disaffiliating.</p> <p>xi. NOTIFICATION TO MEMBERS: At the time that the local church notifies the Office of the Moderator in writing that the congregation is discerning disaffiliation, the church membership will be notified that this information has been sent to UFMCC. At the end of the six-month discernment period, if church leadership still desires to move ahead with calling a congregational vote to disaffiliate then at least thirty (30) calendar days prior to a Congregational Meeting called for the purpose of disaffiliating, all Members of the local church must be notified in writing at their last known address on the membership list of the date, time, place, and purpose of the Congregational Meeting called for the purpose of disaffiliating. A copy of the notification to members shall be simultaneously submitted to the Office of the Moderator.</p> <p>xii. VOTING PROCESS: Voting at the Congregational Meeting, whether held in person or virtually, called for the purpose of disaffiliating shall be done by secret ballot.</p>
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Bylaw Amendment Proposal

	<p>xiii. CONTINUING AFFILIATION: In the event that a congregation votes to disaffiliate, those members of the congregation wishing to continue affiliation with UFMCC may be designated by the Moderator in consultation with MCC staff, Governing Board and Council of Elders, as the continuing Metropolitan Community Church affiliated with the UFMCC. This information shall be shared with all members during the six (6) month discernment process in verbal and written forms of communication, as well as at the Congregational Meeting called for the purpose of voting on disaffiliation.</p> <p>xiv. Disaffiliating churches will make a financial contribution to the ongoing ministry of the UFMCC and to honor the intentions of those who have tithed and offered their financial resources to the church throughout its history as a UFMCC congregation. The contribution will be 5% on the value of existing assets.</p> <p>xv. DISPOSITION OF ASSETS: After existing financial obligations to the UFMCC are met,</p>
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Bylaw Amendment Proposal

	<p>the disaffiliating local church has the right to net assets.</p> <p>xvi. NOTIFICATION TO AFFECTED THIRD PARTIES: In the event that a congregation votes to disaffiliate, the UFMCC shall notify affected third parties that the disaffiliated congregation is no longer associated with the UFMCC and that the disaffiliated congregation may not hold itself out as being an MCC church. Affected third parties include, but are not limited to, banks, creditors, and government agencies that issued corporation/registration status to the disaffiliated church.</p>
<p>Rationale</p>	<p>To add mutual accountability for both the denomination and the local church, and to establish a pathway for healthy and holy conversation to the disaffiliation process. The spirit of this amendment is to add mutual accountability for both the denomination and the local church, and to establish a pathway for healthy and holy conversation to the disaffiliation process. Affiliating and disaffiliating with a denomination are important markers in the life of a church. There is a process to becoming affiliated, which is in place to help the local body understand all that is expected of an affiliated church in MCC. Affiliated churches have both rights</p>

Bylaw Amendment Proposal

	<p>and responsibilities, as does UFMCC as a denomination. The relationship between the church and the denomination is a covenant, which is not entered into lightly by either party. The same should be true of disaffiliation. This amendment is not meant to complicate or impede the disaffiliation process, but rather to ensure that the process is faithful and honors the ministry of the local church and its collective history as part of the denomination. This amendment seeks to offer an opportunity for the congregation and denomination to mediate their differences and find resolution before the final decision is voted on. In situations where disaffiliation is the faithful decision, this process will hopefully bring healing to both parties and allow each to move forward with peace and a clear sense of purpose.</p>
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Bylaw Amendment Proposal

Council of Elders Impact Statement

1. The proposal's compatibility with UFMCC's Values, Mission, and Vision: Consistent
2. The proposal's potential financial impact: Defer to Governing Board
3. Other Bylaws provisions which would be affected by the current proposal: Article V.B.4

Governing Board Impact Statement:

1. The proposal's compatibility with UFMCC's Values, Mission, and Vision: Consistent
2. The proposal's potential financial impact: getting people together in whatever means is chosen, contributions to UFMCC. There could be increased cost to the denomination due to more extensive interaction between the group named to work with churches discerning a decision to disaffiliate. Counterbalancing that could be the income received from the 5% of the existing assets at the time of disaffiliation. Cost of third-party mediation and conflict management process. Paying for litigation,
3. Other bylaw articles impacted: Article V.B.4, which states, "4. CHURCH PROPERTY: In every nation where UFMCC comes to exist and where permitted by local or national laws, the local church's documents of legal organization must name the UFMCC as the successor not-for-profit corporation/non-governmental organization designated to receive the church's property in the event of (1) the dissolution or abandonment of the church, or (2) failure to abide by the process for disaffiliation from the UFMCC by the local church as contained in the UFMCC Bylaws."