

BYLAWS

NORTH CAROLINA CONFERENCE CHAPTER THE FELLOWSHIP OF UNITED METHODISTS IN WORSHIP, MUSIC AND OTHER ARTS

Article I Name

Section 1. Name: The name of the organization shall be "The North Carolina Conference Chapter of The Fellowship of United Methodists in Worship, Music and other Arts", hereinafter designated as "The Fellowship"

Section 2. Relationship: The Fellowship shall be a chapter of The Fellowship of United Methodists in Worship, Music and Other Arts, and shall adhere to its constitution. The Fellowship shall be self-governing and shall elect its own officers and develop its own program according to the objectives and purpose. The Fellowship will maintain a relationship with the North Carolina Conference Commission on Worship and the Conference Board of Diaconal Ministry.

Section 3. Location: An office of The Fellowship shall be located at the discretion of the elected President with the approval of the Council.

Article II Object

Section 1. Purposes and Objectives: The purposes and objectives of the chapter shall be in keeping with the national Fellowship. In addition, the chapter will be sharing and enabling fellowship that affirms the sacramental life embracing preaching, music, drama, dance, architecture and all the visual arts appropriate for the inclusive life of the Church.

We achieve this by:

1. Encouraging a theological concern for and evaluation of our historic tradition in worship, music and other arts in their various forms.
2. Encouraging the creation of new music, liturgies and other works in various art forms.
3. Supporting those seminaries, schools and colleges of the United Methodist Church presently emphasizing training the all-inclusive approach to worship.
4. Cooperating in the establishment and maintenance of guidelines and standards for leaders in worship, music and other arts.
5. Providing through workshops and conferences opportunities for growth in skills and spiritual life for persons of all ages.
6. Supporting the agencies of The United Methodist Church with counsel and leadership in worship, Music and other arts.

7. Encouraging the use of new material, and relating new concepts of worship, music and other arts to the mission of the local church.

8. Sensitizing and working with those structures within The United Methodist Church, the ecumenical church, and others that carry the responsibility for worship, music and other arts.

Article III Membership and Dues

Section 1. Membership: Membership shall be open to those who are interested in the enriching of local church worship. Applicants are considered members when they have paid the prescribed annual dues. Membership is for one year beginning when the dues are paid and continuing until the anniversary of that date.

Section 2. Types of Memberships:

- A. Individual member (Full member)
- B. Student membership. (Full-time students)
- C. Over 65
- D. Associate (shall pay chapter dues to the chapter treasurer. These members receive no benefits beyond the chapter level.)

Section 3. Dues: Membership dues will be stipulated by the national Fellowship council. This amount will be sent to the national office. The chapter portion as determined by the National organization shall be returned to the chapter treasurer.

Article IV Officers

Section 1. Officers: The elected officers shall be: President, Vice-President, Secretary, and Treasurer. These officers shall be considered the chapter council. All officers must be Full members of the Fellowship.

Section 2. Term of Office: The officers shall be elected in the even years for a two-year term to begin at the Annual Conference meeting. No member shall hold more than one office at a time, and no member shall be eligible to serve more than two consecutive terms in the same office. Officers are ineligible to hold any office for one year after leaving office.

Section 3. Duties of the officers shall be:

- A. The president shall preside at chapter and council meetings; appoint committees and coordinate their work; convene the council; serve as ex-officio member of all committees; file with the national Fellowship office an annual report which reflects chapter events, membership, financial status, current officers, and other pertinent data related to maintaining the chapter's active status.

B. The vice-president shall carry out the responsibilities of the president in his/her absence; serve as program director, coordinating all aspects of programs and meetings (i.e. site arrangements, meals services, reservations, etc.)

C. The secretary shall keep the minutes of the council meetings; communicate the chapter's plans by mail to chapter members; write appropriate letters of appreciation; work with the vice-president to be sure that information on upcoming programs/meetings is communicated to members. Upon retirement from office the secretary shall turn over all records in good order to the incoming secretary.

D. The treasurer shall keep accurate records of those who have paid chapter dues; receive all monies for workshops, festivals, etc.; and disburse all monies. An annual reporting of these monies shall be given to the council, and may be given to the general membership. Upon retirement from office the treasurer shall turn over all records in good order to the incoming treasurer.

Section 4. Nominating Committee: At the fall meeting of the odd year, the president shall appoint a nominating committee of three persons. This committee shall make one nomination for each office and submit these names by mail to the membership prior to the spring meeting. Each candidate shall have been contacted by the nominating committee and shall have expressed a willingness to serve. The nominating committee shall coordinate the election process. The committee duties are accomplished with the installation of new officers.

Section 5. Election at the Spring meeting: When there is a spring meeting the slate of nominations shall be presented. Additional names may be nominated from the floor. The member making the nomination shall have contacted the nominee prior to the meeting and nominee shall have expressed a willingness to serve.

Section 6. Election by mail: If there is no spring meeting, elections may be held by mail. Notification of nominations may also serve as the election, though nominations may be made by mail as long as they are returned to the nominating committee by a prescribed date. The member making the nomination shall have contacted the nominee and the nominee shall have expressed a willingness to serve. If nominations are received from the membership, an additional vote shall be taken by mail.

Section 7. Election: A simple majority of all votes for any office shall constitute an election.

Section 8. Installation: Officers will be installed and/or take office at the Annual Conference meeting.

Section 9. Vacancies: If any officer is unable to complete a term of office, the council may either appoint a replacement or reassign

138 the officer's duties to other members of the council for the
139 remainder of the term.

140 Article V
141 Meetings

142 Section 1. Meetings of the Fellowship shall be scheduled by the
143 council. Members shall be notified of meetings by mail. Official
144 business of the Fellowship may be conducted at any meeting.

145 Section 2. Quorum: The quorum shall be the number of members
146 present at any called meeting.

147 Article VI
148 The Council

149 Section 1. Council makeup: The council shall consist of the
150 elected officers of the chapter. Any member of the national
151 Fellowship Council who is a member of the chapter shall be an ex-
152 officio member of the council.

153 Section 2. The council shall meet at least twice each year to
154 conduct the business of the chapter. The council's primary
155 responsibilities include planning the meetings as the membership
156 desires.

157 Section 3. A majority of the council shall be considered a quorum.

158 Article VII
159 Committees

160 Section 1. Committees: Committees to accomplish specific tasks
161 may be established by the council. The members of these committees
162 shall be appointed by the President.

163 Article VIII
164 Parliamentary Authority

165 The rules contained in the current Robert's Rules of Order Newly
166 Revised shall govern the chapter in all cases to which they are
167 applicable and in which they are not inconsistent with these bylaws
168 any special rules of order the chapter may adopt.

169 Article IX
170 Amendments

171 Section 1. Theses bylaws may be amended by a two-thirds majority
172 of the votes received either at a meeting or by mail, providing
173 that the amendment(s) has(have) been submitted to the membership in
174 writing at the previous meeting or by mail 30 days in advance.

175 Section 2. The bylaws may be suspended for purposes of
176 practicality by a two thirds majority of the votes received, either
177 at a meeting or by mail.