

**BYLAWS
OF THE
ABRAHAM LINCOLN
UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST
CONGREGATION
Springfield, Illinois**

ARTICLE 1 – PURPOSE AND AFFILIATION

The purpose of the Abraham Lincoln Unitarian Universalist Congregation shall be the furtherance of liberal religion consistent with the principles of the Unitarian Universalist Association. The Congregation declares and affirms its special responsibility to promote the full participation of persons in all of its activities without regard to race, color, age, sex, sexual orientation, disability, or national origin. The Abraham Lincoln Unitarian Universalist Congregation shall be a member of the Unitarian Universalist Association, and the MidAmerica Region of the Unitarian Universalist Association, or their legitimate successor organizations.

ARTICLE 2 – MEMBERSHIP

Section 1: Open Membership. Membership in the Congregation is open to any person who is in sympathy with the purpose and affiliation of the Congregation and who is seventeen (17) years of age or older. A person becomes a member of the Congregation by completing a Pathway to Membership as set out by the Board of Directors and signing the Congregation Membership Book in the presence of the Minister or any Board Member, thereby evidencing commitment to the well-being of the Congregation.

Section 2: Voting Members. A person must be a member for at least ninety (90) days to be eligible to vote at a Congregation meeting or be counted towards a quorum.

Section 3: Membership List. The Secretary of the Board, or the Secretary's designee, shall maintain a membership list in which shall be recorded the names and addresses of all members of the Congregation. This list shall be open to inspection by any member of the Congregation upon reasonable request.

Section 4: Maintenance of Membership. To maintain membership in the Congregation, each member shall, during each fiscal year, renew their membership either by providing written notification to the Secretary of the Congregation, or by tendering an identifiable financial contribution to the Congregation, or by tendering an identifiable contribution in kind to the Congregation, or by tendering an identifiable contribution in contributory activities to the Congregation unless prevented from doing so by incapacity. Contributory activities shall be either

serving on the Board, or serving on a Committee, or working at Congregational functions, or regular attendance at Congregational meetings.

On or about the first day of October of each year, the Secretary of the Board, or the Secretary's designee, shall, in consultation with the Treasurer and the Minister, make a determination of the active members of the Congregation and shall cause to be removed from the membership list the names of those who are no longer active. Members shall be notified before they are removed from the membership list so that they may have the opportunity to indicate whether they wish to continue their membership and, if they so indicate, and further indicate that they intend to meet the expectations expressed in this Section, they shall remain members. The Board shall annually certify the accuracy of the membership list.

Section 5: Termination of Membership. A member may voluntarily terminate membership in the Congregation by notifying, in writing, the Minister or any Board Member his or her desire to terminate membership.

ARTICLE 3 – CONGREGATIONAL MEETINGS

Section 1: Annual Meeting. The Congregation shall hold an annual meeting during the final month of the fiscal year to be conducted at such time and place as determined by the Board. Notice of said annual meeting shall be sent to all members at least fifteen (15) days prior to the date of the meeting, including notice of time, place, and proposed agenda. Notice shall be sent as set out in Article 15. The Board will coordinate its activities with the Nominating Committee and the Finance Committee to ensure that the notices of nominations and the proposed budget will be available for examination before the meeting as set out further in these bylaws.

Subsection A: Agenda. The agenda for the annual meeting shall be set by the Board except as specified further in this Subsection. The agenda shall include, without the necessity of further notice: the election of the Officers and Directors of the Congregation, the election of members to the applicable Committees of the Congregation as set out in Articles 6 and 8, the adoption of the annual budget, and the officers of the Endowment Trust as set out in Article 7. The Board, by simple majority vote, may include further items in the agenda. The agenda shall include any item submitted by written request to the Board by fifteen (15) members of the Congregation. Additional nominations for the Officers and Directors of the Congregation and the Nominating Committee may be made from the floor. Additions to the agenda may be made by the call of the chair, if without objection, or from the floor, if without objection. The agenda shall be available to any member upon reasonable request. The Secretary shall post the agenda in a prominent place in the congregational building.

Subsection B: Budget. The Treasurer shall post the proposed budget for the next fiscal year in a prominent place in the congregational building as soon as it is available but at least fifteen (15) days before the annual meeting.

Subsection C: Reports from the Board. The President shall present to the congregation a written report detailing the activities of the Board and the Committees of the Board

constituted under Article 5. The President shall present to the congregation a written budget for the next fiscal year. The President may delegate the giving of these reports as appropriate.

Subsection D: Other Reports. The Chairs of the Committees of the Congregation and of the Endowment Trust shall present written reports of their activities to the meeting.

Section 2: Special Meetings. The Congregation may hold special meetings at any other time if called by the President or by a majority of the Board. Notice of the call shall be sent to all members of the Congregation at least fifteen (15) days prior to the date of the meeting, stating the time, place, and proposed agenda of the meeting. Special meetings may also be requested by Congregation members. This may be accomplished by written petition, signed by one-fifth (1/5) of the members of the Congregation residing in Sangamon and the surrounding counties and sent to the President. The petition shall include the agenda of the meeting. The President shall call a meeting, at a place and time determined by the President, but in no event sooner than fifteen (15) days and no later than thirty (30) days after the date of receipt of the petition. If the President fails to act on a properly submitted petition within five (5) days, the Board shall act in place of the President.

Section 3: Quorum. At any annual or special meeting of the Congregation a quorum shall be one fifth (1/5) of the number of members residing in Sangamon and the surrounding counties. Members in attendance shall be counted for the purpose of constituting a quorum regardless of their county of residence. When a quorum is present, a simple majority of the voting members present shall decide any question except as specified elsewhere in these Bylaws.

Section 4: Special Actions. At any annual or special meeting of the Congregation, final action may not be taken on removal of an Officer, Trustee, or Director, calling of a minister, or removal of a Minister, acquisition or disposition of real property, dissolution of the Congregation, adoption of a budget, or expenditures in excess of five thousand dollars (\$5,000.00) unless such matter is included in the agenda of the meeting.

Section 5: Voting. Each member eligible to vote shall have one vote. The Minister shall have one vote. There shall be no proxy or *in absentia* votes.

Section 6: Procedure. The President of the Board, or in the absence of the President, the Vice President, shall act as chair of the meeting. The President may appoint any Board Member to be chair of the meeting in the absence of the President and Vice President. In the absence of the President, the Vice President, and an appointed chair, the meeting shall elect a chair from the members in attendance. In the event a question of order or procedure should arise at a Congregation meeting, the latest edition of Robert's Rules of Order shall prevail.

Section 7: Time and Place of Meetings. All annual and special meetings shall be held at the congregational building except in extraordinary circumstances in which event the meetings shall take place at another convenient location in Sangamon County. No meeting may be called to begin before 9:00 a.m. or after 8:00 p.m.

Section 8: Posting of Minutes. The secretary shall post the unapproved minutes of Congregational meetings in a prominent place in the congregational building within fourteen (14) days of the meeting.

ARTICLE 4 – BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Section 1: Board of Directors. The Directors and Officers shall constitute the Board of Directors of the Congregation. Directors and Officers shall be elected annually by a simple majority vote of the Congregation members present and voting at the annual or special meeting. All Directors and Officers of the Congregation shall be eighteen (18) years of age or older. All members of the Board and Officers must be members of the Congregation for at least six (6) months prior to their election. Nominations shall be made by the Nominating Committee and shall be set out in writing in the notice of the meeting. Additional nominations may be made from the floor. Any person nominated may decline nomination and cause their name to be removed from the list of nominees. No two offices of the Board may be held by the same person. All shall serve until their successors have been elected and qualified. No person shall serve on the Board after resigning from the Congregation. The Minister shall be an *ex officio*, non-voting member of the Board.

Section 2: Officers. The Officers of the Congregation shall be a President, a Vice President, a Secretary and a Treasurer. Subject to these Bylaws, each Officer shall have, in addition to the duties and powers herein set forth, such duties as are commonly incident to the office, and such duties and powers as the Board shall from time to time designate. Each Officer shall serve a one year term and may be reelected consecutively only once. Officers shall serve terms concurrent with the Congregation fiscal year.

Subsection A: President. The President shall preside at all meetings of the Congregation and the Board. The President shall have such other duties and powers as the Board shall from time to time designate.

Subsection B: Vice President. In the absence of the President, the Vice President will preside at all meetings of the Congregation and the Board. The Vice President shall serve as the parliamentarian, coordinate and monitor the Committees for the Board and the Congregation, and shall have such other duties and powers as the Board shall from time to time designate.

Subsection C: Secretary. The Secretary shall keep or cause to be kept a true record of all meetings and such records shall be open at all reasonable times to inspection by any member. The Secretary shall post the unapproved minutes of Congregational meetings in a prominent place in the congregational building within fourteen (14) days of the meeting. In the absence of the Secretary at any such meeting, a temporary Secretary shall be appointed by the President to record the proceedings of such meeting. The Secretary shall maintain the membership list of the Congregation, as set out in Article 2, and have such other duties and powers as the Board shall from time to time designate.

Subsection D: Treasurer. The Treasurer shall preserve in the books of the Congregation true records of all financial proceedings of the Congregation and shall provide financial reports

and payments as directed by the Board. The Board may employ a staff member or outside service to assist the Treasurer in these duties.

Section 3: Directors. There shall be six (6) Directors of the Board. At each annual meeting there shall be elected three (3) Directors. Each Director shall serve for a term of two years and may be reelected consecutively only once.

Section 4: Responsibilities and Powers of the Board. The Board of Directors shall be responsible for the financial affairs of the Congregation and shall budget activities in such a manner as to be consistent with the identifiable resources of the Congregation. The Board shall be responsible for matters relating to personnel except as set out in Article 8 (Selection and Removal of a Minister). The Board shall perform such other duties as usually pertain to the office. The Board shall have and may exercise all the powers of the Congregation except final actions to: call or remove a Minister; acquire or dispose of real property; expend funds for an item not in the annual budget in excess of five thousand dollars (\$5,000.00); increase or decrease expenditures of five thousand dollars (\$5,000) or more for any item in the budget; increase or decrease total expenditures in the budget by more than fifteen percent (15%); or dissolve the Congregation. Such matters exempted from final action by the Board may only be taken by the membership at an annual or special meeting of the Congregation called according to the provisions of Article 3. The Board shall have charge of all property of the Congregation except as otherwise provided in these Bylaws. The Board shall be the governing body of the Congregation and as such shall handle all of its business affairs and the management of its administration. The Board shall, after receiving advice from the Nominating Committee, fill extraordinary vacancies on the Board, the Nominating Committee, and the Ministerial Search Committee. The Board shall fill any extraordinary vacancies on the Committee on Ministry from a list submitted to it by the Nominating Committee, with the advice and consent of the Minister. Persons so selected to fill the above extraordinary committee vacancies may decline appointment. Persons so selected to fill the above extraordinary vacancies shall serve until the next annual meeting of the Congregation at which time an election shall be held to fill the unexpired term.

Section 5: Regular Meetings of the Board. The Board shall hold at least four (4) meetings each year to be conducted at such times and places as determined by the President. Notice of said meetings shall be posted in a prominent place in the congregational building at least ten (10) days prior to the date of the meeting and Board Members shall be notified as set out in Article 15 or by telephone.

Section 6: Special Meetings of the Board. Special meetings of the Board may be called by the President or by a majority of the Board. At least three (3) days prior notice of the call shall be given to all members of the Board, as set out in Article 15 or by telephone. At such a special meeting of the Board no action may be taken on removal of an Officer or Director, removal of a trustee of the Endowment Trust, calling of a Minister, or removal of a Minister, acquisition or disposition of real property, expend funds for an item not in the budget in excess of five thousand dollars (\$5,000), increase or decrease expenditures of five thousand dollars (\$5,000) or more for any item in the budget, increase or decrease total expenditures in the budget by more than fifteen percent (15%), or dissolution of the Congregation.

Section 7: Emergency Meetings of the Board. In an emergency, the President may call an extraordinary meeting of the Board on short notice provided good faith efforts have been made to contact all members of the Board as set out in Article 15 or by telephone. At such an emergency meeting of the Board no action may be taken on removal of an Officer or Director, removal of a trustee of the Endowment Trust, calling of a Minister, or removal of a Minister, acquisition or disposition of real property, dissolution of the Congregation, adoption of a budget, expenditure of funds for an item not in the budget in excess of five thousand dollars (\$5,000), increase or decrease in expenditures of five thousand dollars (\$5,000) or more for any item in the budget, increase or decrease in total expenditures in the budget by more than fifteen percent (15%). It is the intent of the Congregation that this provision for emergency meeting of the Board be used in only extraordinary and unusual situations.

Section 8: Termination. Removal of an Officer or Director from office for cause may only be done by a three-fifths (3/5) vote of those present and voting at an annual or special Congregation meeting called according to the provisions of Article 3 provided that notification of the removal resolution is included in the agenda of the meeting.

Section 9: Quorum. At any meeting of the Board a majority of the voting members of the Board Members shall constitute a quorum. A majority of Board Members present and voting shall decide any question except as otherwise specified in these Bylaws.

Section 10: Procedure. In the event a question of order or procedure should arise at a Board meeting, the latest edition of Robert's Rules of Order shall prevail.

Section 11: Open Board Meetings. All meetings of the Board are open to all members of the Congregation except as noted in Section 12 of this Article.

Section 12: Closed Sessions of Board Meetings. It is the intent of the Congregation that its business shall be conducted in as open manner as possible. It is, nevertheless, recognized that on rare occasions some items must be discussed in confidence. Therefore, the Board shall have the authority to determine that it is in the best interests of the Congregation that a particular item, or items, of a confidential nature should be considered in closed session. In such closed session, only issues of a sensitive, confidential, or personal nature may be discussed. The Board may decide to enter closed session by a three-fifth (3/5) majority vote of those present and voting cast in open session. All persons other than voting Board Members shall be excluded from such closed session except as invited to attend by a majority vote of Board Members present and voting at the meeting. No votes or actions other than to admit invited guests and to return to open session may be taken in closed sessions. The Secretary of the Board shall record that a closed session of the Board occurred and the general nature of the discussion that ensued.

ARTICLE 5 – COMMITTEES OF THE BOARD

Section 1: Regular Standing Committees. The President shall appoint a chair for the following regular standing committees: Finance; Religious Education; Program; Facilities; Fellowship; Social Justice; Electronics and Communications; Audit; Personnel; Green Sanctuary; Long Range

Planning; and Membership. The committee chair shall select the members of the committee in consultation with the President and shall act under the general supervision of the Board. The chair and members shall serve terms concurrent with the Congregation fiscal year or until their successors have been appointed.

Subsection A: Audit Committee. The Audit Committee shall be composed of three (3) people, one of whom shall be a member of the Board. Neither the Treasurer nor any person who has administrative responsibility for financial affairs shall be a member of the Audit Committee. The Audit Committee may solicit advice from persons with formal audit training as it sees fit. The Audit Committee shall annually conduct a review of the Congregation's financial records. This shall not be a formal audit as the term is used in public accounting but rather a review of the records of the income and expenses of the Congregation to ensure that the accounts are being maintained in a reasonable manner and according to specific policies as set by the Board. The Audit Committee may, and should, conduct unannounced, random inspections of the Congregation's records throughout the year to monitor compliance. The Audit Committee shall review the records of the Endowment Trust in the same manner as it reviews the Congregation's records. The Audit Committee shall compile a record of the annual audit to be kept on file in the Congregation's office. The Audit Committee shall prepare a report of its activities to be presented at the annual meeting.

Section 2: Ad Hoc Committees. The Board may establish other committees as it sees fit. Such committees shall act under the general supervision of the Board. These committees shall act for such time periods with respect to such special or general problems as the Board may from time to time determine.

Section 3: Membership of Committees. Members of the Regular Standing Committees and *Ad Hoc* Committees are not required to be members of the Congregation.

Section 4: Termination of Committee Members. Chairs and members of Regular Standing Committees and *Ad Hoc* Committees serve at the pleasure of the Board and may be removed by a two-thirds (2/3) majority vote of the Board.

Section 5: Notice of Meetings. Notice of regular meetings of Committees of the Board shall either be posted in a prominent place in the congregational building or published in the Congregational Newsletter.

Section 6: Closed Meetings of Board Committees. It is the intent of the Congregation that its business shall be conducted in as open manner as possible. It is, nevertheless, recognized that on some occasions some items must be discussed in confidence. Therefore, the Finance, Audit, Religious Education and Personnel Committees shall have the authority to determine that it is in the best interests of the Congregation that a particular item, or items, of a confidential nature should be considered in closed session. In such closed session, only issues of a sensitive, confidential, or personal nature may be discussed. The Committee may decide to enter closed session by a three-fifth (3/5) majority vote of those present and voting cast in open session. All

persons other than Committee members shall be excluded from such closed session except as invited to attend by a majority vote of Committee members present and voting at the meeting. No votes or actions other than to admit invited guests and to return to open session may be taken in closed sessions. There shall be minutes of the meeting which shall record that a closed session of the committee occurred and the general nature of the discussion that ensued.

ARTICLE 6 – COMMITTEES OF THE CONGREGATION

Section 1: Nominating Committee.

Subsection A: Composition. The Nominating Committee shall consist of four (4) members not serving on or nominated to the Board. Two members of the Committee shall be elected at each Annual Meeting of the Congregation and shall serve for two years. The terms shall be staggered so that the terms of two (2) members shall expire each year. Members of the Nominating Committee may be reelected consecutively only once.

Subsection B: Responsibilities. The Nominating Committee shall be responsible for nominating candidates for the Board, for the applicable Committees of the Congregation referred to in this Article, and for trustees of the Endowment Trust. Nominations to the Ministerial Search Committee shall be as necessary. Nominations for the trustees of the Endowment Trust shall follow the provisions of the Endowment Trust. The Nominating Committee shall notify the Congregation of its nominations for various positions by posting them in a prominent place in the congregational building at least thirty (30) days before an election. The Nominating Committee shall be responsible for nominating candidates for any extraordinary vacancies, which may occur from time to time. Any member nominated to any position may decline nomination and, by doing so, cause their name to be withdrawn. The Nominating Committee shall appoint members to the Committee on Ministry pursuant to Section 2 of this Article.

Subsection C: Failure to Perform. If the Nominating Committee fails to properly perform its responsibilities as set out in this section, the Congregation may, nevertheless, elect members to the various positions set out in these bylaws. Such elections shall follow the overall intent and spirit of these bylaws.

Section 2: Committee on Ministry. A Committee on Ministry of six (6) members of the Congregation shall be appointed by the Nominating Committee with the advice and consent of the Minister and the Board and announced at each Annual Meeting of the Congregation. Members shall serve on the committee for a period of three (3) years. The terms shall be staggered so that the terms of two (2) members shall expire each year. The Board shall fill any extraordinary vacancies from a list recommended by the Nominating Committee, with the advice and consent of the Minister. Committee members may not be appointed for consecutive terms. The Committee shall meet with the Minister no less than twice a year for a performance evaluation and to discuss any issues of importance to the ministry.

Section 3: Ministerial Search Committee. A Ministerial Search Committee shall be established as necessary as set out in Article 8.

Section 4: Chairs of Committees of the Congregation. Each Committee referred to in this Article shall meet within four (4) weeks of the annual meeting and shall select a chair from among its members. If the Committee does not meet within four (4) weeks the President shall call a meeting of the Committee for the purpose of the Committee's selecting its chair. If the Committee does not select a chair at the meeting the President shall select a chair.

Section 5: Termination of Committee Members. Members of the Committees of the Congregation referenced in this Article serve at the pleasure of the Congregation and may be removed from office by a simple majority vote of those present and voting at an annual or special meeting called according to the provisions of Article 3.

Section 6: Closed Meetings of Committees of the Congregation. Meetings of Committees of the Congregation are closed except to invited guests. Meetings may be made open by a simple majority vote of those present and voting. Meetings of a Ministerial Search Committee will follow the recommendations of the Unitarian Universalist Association *Settlement Handbook for Ministers and Congregations* with respect to the rules of confidentiality and open and closed meetings.

Section 7: Coordination of Activities. The Committees of the Congregation shall coordinate their activities with the Board and shall, at the request of the President or the Board, report on their activities to the Board.

ARTICLE 7 – ABRAHAM LINCOLN UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST CONGREGATION ENDOWMENT TRUST

Section 1: Incorporation of the Resolution Establishing the Abraham Lincoln Unitarian Universalist Congregation Endowment Trust. The Congregation has established, by Congregational resolution, an endowment fund trust known as the Abraham Lincoln (Unitarian Universalist) Congregation Trust (referred to in these bylaws as the Endowment Trust). The establishment resolution lays out the provisions under which the Endowment Trust operates. The resolution is hereby incorporated into the bylaws of the Congregation.

Section 2: Amendment of the Endowment Trust Resolution. Notwithstanding any provisions of the Endowment Trust resolution, the Congregation has ultimate control over the Endowment Trust and may amend the resolution establishing the Endowment Trust, or the provisions of the Endowment Trust's operation, by a two-thirds (2/3) vote of those present and voting at any annual or special meeting called according to Article 3 of these bylaws provided that the text of the proposed amendment has been included in the notice of said meeting.

Section 3: Appointment and Removal of Trustees of the Endowment Trust. The Congregation, at its annual meeting, shall elect the Trustees of the Endowment Trust as set out in the provisions of the Endowment Trust resolution and Article 3 of these bylaws. Notwithstanding any provisions of the Endowment Trust resolution, the Congregation may remove a trustee of the Endowment Trust from office by a majority vote of those present and voting at an annual or special meeting called

according to the provisions of Article 3 provided that notification of the removal resolution is included in the agenda of the meeting.

Section 4: Coordination of Activities. The Endowment Trust shall coordinate its activities with the Board and shall, at the request of the President or the Board, report on its activities to the Board.

ARTICLE 8 – SELECTION AND REMOVAL OF A MINISTER

Section 1: Ministerial Search Committee. When the necessity arises, a Ministerial Search Committee will be selected from the Congregation members. Three (3) members shall be appointed by the Board, and four (4) members shall be elected by a majority of the Congregation members at the annual meeting or a special meeting, called according to the provisions of Article 3, from a slate prepared by the Nominating Committee and/or from nominations from the floor.

The seven (7) members of the Committee shall elect their own chair. The Committee shall perform such duties as specified by Unitarian Universalist Association for Ministerial Search and Selection. The Committee shall serve for such period as established by the Congregation and shall serve at the pleasure of the Congregation. The Committee shall dissolve upon selection of a Minister.

Section 2: Ministerial Selection. A Minister is selected by the Congregation and is responsible to the entire membership. Upon recommendation of a candidate to the Board by the Ministerial Search Committee, a special meeting of the Congregation shall be called in accordance with Article 3, Section 2 for the purpose of voting on the recommended candidate. A two-thirds (2/3) affirmative vote of the Congregation members present and voting shall constitute a selection of the candidate as the Congregation Minister.

Section 3: Ministerial Removal. A Minister may be removed if two-thirds (2/3) of the Congregation members present and voting at an annual or special meeting, called according to the provisions of Article 3, so vote, provided the question of ministerial removal is included in the required notice to all members of such meeting. Removal of the Minister shall take place no earlier than two months after passage of a motion for removal, unless otherwise provided in a written contract with the Minister.

ARTICLE 9 – EXECUTION OF PAPERS

All papers of the Congregation such as deeds, leases, contracts, bonds, notes, checks, drafts, and other such obligations made, accepted, or endorsed by the Congregation shall be signed by the person or persons designated by the Board. Such designation by the Board of the person to act on behalf of the Congregation shall be entered in the official minutes of the Congregation as part of the permanent records.

ARTICLE 10 – FISCAL YEAR

The fiscal year of the Congregation shall begin on the first day of July in each year and shall end on the thirtieth day of June following.

ARTICLE 11 – AMENDMENTS

These bylaws may be amended at any regular meeting by a two-thirds (2/3) vote of Congregation members present and voting at an annual or special meeting, called according to the provisions of Article 3, so vote, provided the text of the proposed amendments has been included in the required notice to all members of such meeting. The Board may submit to the Congregation any proposed amendments which the Board has approved by simple majority vote. The Board shall submit to the Congregation any proposed amendment submitted by petition from the Congregation, such petition having been signed by one-fifth (1/5) of the members eligible to vote and residing in Sangamon and the surrounding counties.

ARTICLE 12 – DISSOLUTION / REVERSIONARY CLAUSE

Section 1: In the event of the dissolution of the Abraham Lincoln Unitarian Universalist Congregation, all outstanding debts shall be paid and the remaining assets, both real and personal, including all property and monies donated at any time to the Congregation, shall become the property of the Unitarian Universalist Association, or its legitimate successor organizations, subject to all applicable laws.

Section 2: Assets of the Endowment Trust. In event of the dissolution of the Abraham Lincoln Unitarian Universalist Congregation, the Endowment Trust shall also dissolve and the assets of the Endowment Trust incorporated into the assets of the Congregation to be disposed of as set out in Section 1 of this Article.

ARTICLE 13 – TERMINATION OF BOARD AND CERTAIN COMMITTEE MEMBERSHIPS UPON RESIGNATION FROM THE CONGREGATION

Termination of membership in the Congregation shall result in termination from membership of the Board of Directors and of any and all Committees of the Congregation for which membership in the Congregation is mandated by these bylaws.

ARTICLE 14 – DEFINITIONS

Section 1: Sangamon and the surrounding counties. In these bylaws the phrase “Sangamon and the surrounding counties” shall be interpreted to include the Illinois counties of Sangamon, Menard, Logan, Macon, Christian, Montgomery, Macoupin, Morgan, and Cass.

Section 2: Abraham Lincoln Unitarian Universalist Congregation Endowment Trust. In these bylaws “Endowment Trust” shall refer to the Abraham Lincoln Unitarian Universalist Congregation Endowment Trust.

ARTICLE 15 – NOTIFICATION

Section 1: Notification. Notifications mandated by these bylaws shall be deemed to have occurred if either:

- (a) notification is sent to the member by either ordinary United States mail or by electronic mail (e-mail) at the address last registered with the Secretary; or

(b) notification is published in the congregational newsletter, and the newsletter is sent to the member by either ordinary United States mail or by electronic mail (e-mail) at the address last registered with the Secretary.

Section 2: Address Registration. Members of the Congregation shall inform the Secretary in writing of their current postal and e-mail addresses.

ARTICLE 16 – GOOD FAITH

All persons holding office under these bylaws and all members of the Congregation shall act in good faith to ensure that their actions are consistent with the overall goals of the Congregation and of the Unitarian Universalist Association.

ARTICLE 17 – INTERPRETATION

These bylaws shall be interpreted according to the laws of the State of Illinois.

ARTICLE 18 – PART ILLEGAL OR UNENFORCEABLE

If any part of these bylaws is found, by a court of competent jurisdiction, to be illegal or unenforceable, such finding shall not render illegal or unenforceable any other part of these bylaws.

ARTICLE 19 – EFFECTIVE DATE

These bylaws are effective upon approval by the Congregation.

Amendments approved by the Congregation June 17, 2007; June 7, 2009; June 6, 2010; June 5, 2011; June 10, 2012; June 7, 2015; and June 11, 2017.