

## BYLAWS FOR

Unity Ministers of the Mid Atlantic States,  
Inc.  
May 4, 2005

### ARTICLE I Identification

#### Section 1.01 Statement of Purpose

The purpose of the Unity Ministers of the Mid-Atlantic States, a religious organization incorporated in North Carolina, hereinafter referred to as UMMAS, is to provide peer support for Unity ministers and spiritual leaders and their spouses and life partners. Additionally, UMMAS may conduct services, retreats, and programs of instruction that in the judgment of the members shall further the principles of practical Christianity, as taught and demonstrated by Jesus Christ and interpreted by Unity School of Christianity and the Association of Unity Churches.

#### Section 1.02 Relationship with the Association of Unity Churches

UMMAS, while not becoming a member of the Association, shall at all times comply with the regulation and policies of said Association bylaws, insofar as they do not conflict with the laws of the State of North Carolina.

### ARTICLE II Office and Official Records

#### Section 2.01 Office and Official Records

The principle office of UMMAS and repository of its records of membership, finances, minutes, corporate seal, etc. shall be maintained at a principal office in North Carolina determined by the Executive Team.

### ARTICLE III Membership

#### Section 3.01 Qualifications

Any Unity minister and Unity spiritual leader and their partner in Alabama, North Carolina, South Carolina, Tennessee or Georgia shall qualify for membership through their agreement to attend UMMAS functions and to support UMMAS activities as they are able.

A Unity minister and Unity spiritual leader and partner from other states can apply for membership by letter submitted to President after they attend two meetings in a 12-month period and support the group financially during that period. Qualifying applicants are accepted into UMMAS membership by the executive team

Membership in UMMAS is maintained by the member's participation in at least one regularly scheduled UMMAS minister gathering per year and yearly financial support of UMMAS by

the minister or through his/her ministry.

#### Section 3.02 Induction and Revocation

Membership in UMMAS is obtained through meeting the qualifications in Section 3.1.

Membership shall be revoked if any of the following conditions is met:

- a) Voluntary withdrawal by the member.
- b) A seventy-five percent (75%) affirmative vote for removal the member at a duly called membership meeting.

#### Section 3.03 Powers of Members

Members of UMMAS shall have the power to do the following so long as they remain active according to the requirements of Section 3.02:

- a) Vote at any meeting regarding action being considered by UMMAS.
- b) Elect members to serve on the Executive Team as specified in Section 4.
- c) Ratify UMMAS bylaws or any amendments thereto as specified in Section 8.
- d) Vote on any question of sale, pledge, or proposed financing of real property owned and used for the operation of UMMAS. A seventy-five percent (75%) affirmative vote of those present and voting is required for approval.
- e) Petition UMMAS for assistance in any matter affecting the operation of a church, center, study group or other Unity work being lead by the member.
- f) Petition UMMAS for assistance in any personal matter affecting the member.

#### Section 3.04 Meetings and Quorums

- a) Regular UMMAS meetings shall be held at various locations in the geographic region each year and/or during conferences and conventions of the Association and the Southeast Region. The lesser of twelve members or 25% of the membership shall be considered a quorum. Unless otherwise restricted herein, a majority of members present and voting shall necessary for approval of any action being voted upon.
- b) Special UMMAS meetings may be held at the request of any member. Such requests shall be forwarded to the Executive Team for approval. If approved, the membership shall be informed of the date, time and location of the meeting at least thirty days prior to the meeting. Twelve members of UMMAS shall be considered a quorum. Unless otherwise restricted herein, a majority of members present and voting shall necessary for approval of any action being voted upon.

#### Section 3.05 Joint meetings

UMMAS may assemble each year for the purpose of holding a retreat for lay persons wishing to enhance their spiritual growth and experience a gathering of like- minded persons. UMMAS may in addition gather together lay persons who are serving in leadership capacities in the churches served by UMMAS members. Individual members may also from time to time sponsor smaller retreats that will also bring together members from a variety of churches. All of these gatherings are defined as joint gatherings, and as such qualify for participation by members under Section 3.01

## ARTICLE IV Government

#### Section 4.01 Administration

The government of UMMAS shall be invested in the Board of Directors (herein after referred to as the Executive Team) elected from the membership.

#### Section 4.02 Executive Team, Members

- a) The Executive Team shall consist of President, Vice President, Treasurer and Secretary. Each Executive Team member shall serve for two years, or until a successor is duly elected. No Executive Team Member shall serve more than two successive terms of two years each without an interval of one year between terms.
- b) As representatives of the membership, the Executive Team shall:
  - 1) Maintain lines of communication with the members in all matters concerning the membership.
  - 2) Consider all requests for assistance from members as to the nature of the request, the possibilities of fulfilling the request, and the appropriateness of a response by UMMAS according to the current Executive Team guidelines.
  - 3) Take action determined to be appropriate for the satisfaction of any request for assistance. membership.
  - 4) Report all actions taken by the Executive Team at the next meeting of the membership
  - 5) Administer, or have administered, any real or personal property of UMMAS

#### Section 4.03 Executive Team, Election

- a) Qualifications: Any member of UMMAS may be elected to serve on the Executive Team.
- b) Election: Members shall be nominated from the membership at a regular meeting of the membership every other year at the first meeting following the beginning of the calendar year. Those nominated will then be elected through either ballot or acclamation by the members present at such meeting.
- c) Vacancies: Should a vacancy occur due to a member no longer being able to fulfill their duties, the remaining members of the Executive Team shall select a member to fulfill the remainder of that term of office. Such replacement shall not be considered a full term of office.
- d) Meetings: The Executive Team may meet outside of regularly scheduled or duly called special membership meetings as needed.

#### Section 4.04 Officers Duties

- a) President: The President shall:
  - 1) Preside at all membership and Executive Team UMMAS meetings.
  - 2) Communicate with members regarding UMMAS meetings and gatherings.
  - 3) Contact the other Executive Team members regarding all requests for assistance, and take appropriate action according to the current Executive Team guidelines.
- b) Vice President: The Vice President shall:
  - 1) Perform all the duties of the President in the case of his or her absence at a regular or duly called special meeting.
  - 2) Assume the office of President in the event the President vacates the office for any reason.
  - 3) Maintain a roster of all members, and take necessary steps to welcome

new members to UMMAS.

c) Secretary: The Secretary shall:

- 1) Keep, or cause to be kept an accurate record of all Executive Team and regular or duly called special meetings of UMMAS.
- 2) Take such minutes as is necessary at all meetings, forwarding such minutes to the membership at the conclusion of all meetings where minutes are taken.

c) Treasurer: The Treasurer shall:

- 1) Be custodian of all funds of UMMAS, and pay out, or cause to be paid out, funds authorized by the Executive Team or the membership at a duly called meeting.
- 2) Keep, or cause to be kept, a record of all financial transactions of UMMAS.
- 3) Prepare, or cause to be prepared, a report on the financial condition of UMMAS at every meeting of UMMAS.
- 4) Count, or cause to be counted, all funds received, and be responsible for their deposit.
- 5) Place, or cause to be placed, the funds of UMMAS in a bank or other depository selected and approved by the Executive Team or the membership.

## ARTICLE V

### Teams

#### Section 5.01 Formation

All teams shall be appointed by the President with the advice and consent of the Executive Team and the membership. Teams shall function for specific tasks and shall serve until the special task is completed to the satisfaction of the membership.

## ARTICLE VI

### Seal

#### Section 6.01 Description

The corporate seal of UMMAS shall include the name of the corporation, Wilmington, North Carolina, and the Date of the incorporation enclosed in a circle.

#### Section 6.02 Dissolution

Should this corporation dissolve, all property and funds after the payments of debts of the corporation shall be delivered to the Association of Unity Churches, a nonprofit corporation organized under the laws of the State of Georgia, for religious and educational purposes. Such funds or property shall be for the use and benefit of the Association as may be determined by its Board of Trustees.

Should the Association no longer exist, any assets of this corporation after dissolution shall be disposed of by a Court of Competent jurisdiction of the County in which the principle office of the corporation is then located, exclusively for the purposes or to such organization or organizations, as said court shall determine, which are organized and

operated exclusively for purposes set out in Section 5.01(c) (3) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1954.

ARTICLE VII  
Meeting Procedures

Section 7.01 Rules of Order

The latest edition of Robert's Rules of Order shall be the authority of UMMAS on parliamentary law and its usage, unless otherwise specified by these bylaws.

ARTICLE VIII  
Bylaw Amendments

Section 8.01 Procedure

Amendments to these bylaws must be made by voting members of UMMAS at a legally constituted meeting of the membership. Written notice setting forth the proposed amendments must be provided to all members at least thirty days prior to the required membership meeting. An affirmative vote of a minimum of 12 members present and voting shall be necessary to pass any amendment to these bylaws.

Bylaws as amended adopted May 2, 2016

Attest: \_\_\_\_\_ Secretary

Attest: \_\_\_\_\_ President

(seal)