

Incorporation of the Local Church
SAMPLE
Certificate Of Amended Articles
Of

(old name)

_____, Chairman or President, and
_____, Secretary of the Board of Trustees of
_____, a State of _____ corporation not for profit, with
its principal office situated in _____ **County**, _____ **State**, do hereby certify that at
a Special Meeting of The Charge Conference of this corporation called and held on ____ day of
, 20___, at which meeting a quorum of members thereof were present, that by affirmative vote of
a majority of such members present, the following resolutions were adopted:

‘**RESOLVED**, that the following amended Articles of Incorporation be, and the
same are hereby adopted to supersede and take the place of existing Articles of
Incorporation and all amendments thereto, if any, to-wit:

Amended Sample Articles Of Incorporation
Of

FIRST: The name of said corporation shall be

SECOND: The place where the principal office of the corporation is to be located is

(City, County, and State)

THIRD: The purpose or purposes for which the corporation is formed are as more
fully set forth in the *Discipline* of The United Methodist Church or as may
hereafter, from time to time, be amended including:

(a) The promotion of the Christian religion through the preaching of the Word of
God, the administration of the sacraments, ordinances, and other means of grace, the
maintenance of worship, the edification of believers, the evangelization of the world, and the
promotion of the missionary and benevolence causes.

(b) Receiving, holding, and disbursing gifts, bequests, and funds arising from all
sources.

(c) Acquiring, owning, and maintaining real estate, buildings, and other property
real or personal, incidental, necessary, or proper to carry out said objects.

(d) Doing of any and all things necessary or incident to the accomplishment of such purposes.

(e) All of the above shall be in accordance with the Doctrines, Laws, Usages, *Discipline*, and Ministerial appointments of The United Methodist Church.

FOURTH: The Trustees shall be elected and shall serve and provided in the *Discipline* of The United Methodist Church.

FIFTH: Upon the filing of these Articles of Incorporation in accordance with the *Discipline* of The United Methodist Church, which is the constitution and fundamental agreement of this society or association, the _____ United Methodist church, a nonprofit corporation, formerly known as the _____ Methodist Church, and the members of the _____ United Methodist Church shall be members of this corporation, and all the rights, privileges, immunities, powers, franchises, authority, and all the property and obligations of corporation under its former name shall thereupon pass to, vest in, and be the rights, privileges, immunities, powers, franchises, authority, property, and obligations of the _____ United Methodist Church, a corporation not for profit.

SIXTH: The corporation shall support the Doctrine of The United Methodist Church and it and all its property, both real and personal, shall be subject to the *Discipline*, Laws, Usages, and Ministerial appointments of The United Methodist Church as are now or shall be, from time to time, established, made, and declared by the lawful authority of the said church.

SEVENTH: The corporation, in conformity with the *Discipline* of The United Methodist Church, shall have the power to receive, acquire, and hold title, in trust or otherwise, to real and personal property, and to improve, encumber, lease, sell, convey, and dispose of all such property.

EIGHTH: Subject to the provisions of the *Discipline*, the corporation shall have the power to erect and maintain buildings for the worship of God, for training in Christian faith and conduct, and for Christian social intercourse, and to purchase, lease, and/or rent and otherwise acquire or build and maintain residences for the use and occupancy of its ministers.

NINTH: The business of this corporation shall be conducted in conformity with the *Discipline* of The United Methodist Church as the same now exists or as may hereafter be amended, changed, or modified, and the bylaws of the corporation shall include the *Discipline* of The United Methodist Church and no bylaws shall be adopted inconsistent with the provisions of said *Discipline*.

In addition to the powers and duties granted to this corporation by the *Discipline* of The United Methodist Church, the corporation assumes for itself all the rights, powers, and privileges and immunities which are now, and which may be during the existence thereof be conferred by law upon corporation with a similar character, provided the same are not inconsistent with said *Discipline*. All amendments, bylaws, and regulations of this corporation shall at all times be in conformity with the *Discipline* of The United Methodist Church.

But notwithstanding the above, however, at no time shall any of the amendments, bylaws, or regulations of the corporation be prohibited by or in conflict with the nonprofit corporate laws of the State of _____.

TENTH: The members of the corporation shall mean the membership of the corporation and shall be composed of such persons (ministerial and lay) as from time to time shall be defined in accordance with the *Discipline* of The United Methodist Church, and such members thereof shall have only such voting and other rights as now exist or may hereafter be granted by the *Discipline* of The United Methodist Church.

ELEVENTH: If for any reason the corporation shall be abandoned, discontinued, or cease to exist as a legal entity and its charter shall expire or be terminated, the title to all its property both real and personal shall be vested and be the property of the _____ annual conference of The United Methodist Church, pursuant to said *Discipline* of The United Methodist Church, or to an organization qualified under § 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code of the United States.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, said _____, President, and Secretary of _____, acting for and on behalf of said corporation, have hereunto subscribed their names this ____ day of _____, 20__.

By _____
President

By _____
Secretary