

**Appendices to the Minutes of the 217th Annual Meeting of the
Massachusetts Conference, United Church of Christ
June 17-18, 2016**

**Appendix A:
Consent Calendar**

1. *The 217th Annual Meeting adopts the Standing Rules as printed on pages 18-21 of the Advance Materials.*
2. *The 217th Annual Meeting adopts the Order of Time and Events as printed on pages 2-4 of this packet.*

**Appendix B:
Resolution Calling on The Thirty-First General Synod of The United
Church Of Christ and its Members, Congregations, Associations, and
Conferences to Covenant as Immigrant-Welcoming Congregations**

Presented by the Justice and Witness Council at the request of the Immigration and Refugee Concerns Task Team

INTRODUCTION

The draft Resolution below is in the process of development by immigration and refugee task teams throughout the national United Church of Christ. The intention is to propose a resolution to General Synod, the National gathering of the UCC, in 2017. The language below is the most current at the time of publication of these Advance Materials.

The MACUCC Task Team for Immigration and Refugee Concerns proposes that the Massachusetts Conference be among those conferences sponsoring the Synod resolution. However, the resolution is not yet in its final form, and the deadline for sponsorship is December 31, 2016 – six months prior to the next Annual Meeting of the Conference.

PROPOSED VOTE

Therefore, the Justice and Witness Council of the Conference recommends that the Board of Directors be authorized to vote to sponsor the final version if, in the Board's estimation, the final version is substantially similar to the version printed below. Specifically, the Council recommends to the 217th Annual Meeting the following:

The 217th Annual Meeting authorizes the Board of Directors of the Massachusetts Conference to vote on its behalf to sponsor a Resolution Calling on the Thirty-first General Synod of the United Church of Christ and its members, congregations, associations and conferences to Covenant as Immigrant-Welcoming Congregations provided that, in the Board's estimation, the proposed resolution is substantially similar to the draft printed in the Advance Materials to the 217th Annual Meeting.

PROPOSED RESOLUTION

WHEREAS the International Association for Refugees has stated, "The world is in the midst of a long-term refugee crisis"; and

WHEREAS thousands of refugees and migrants come from throughout the world to the United States seeking safety, security, freedom, and opportunity; and

WHEREAS the Jewish and Christian traditions honor this text: "When an immigrant resides with you in your land, you shall not oppress the immigrant. The immigrant who resides with you shall be to you as the citizen among you; you shall love the immigrant as yourself, for you were immigrants in the land of Egypt" (Leviticus 19:33-34, adapted from NRSV); and

WHEREAS Jesus says, "'you shall love your neighbor as yourself.' There is no other commandment greater than these.'" (Mark 12:31, NRSV); and

WHEREAS migrants bring us as offerings their stories and experiences, dreams and hopes, energy and skills; and

WHEREAS our new neighbors experience difficulties adjusting to life in a new country, difficulties such as language barriers, culture shock, a sense of loss, and isolation; and

WHEREAS the welcome and support immigrants receive helps in the building of safe communities and future prosperity; and

WHEREAS the United Church of Christ (UCC) declares "No matter who you are or where you are on life's journey, you are welcomed here"; and

WHEREAS an example of living a covenant of immigrant welcome is offered in the following UCC resource: "Becoming an Immigrant Welcoming Congregation - The Journey is Made by Walking" (<http://www.uccfiles.com/pdf/Becoming%20an%20immigrant%20welcoming%20congregation%20updated%20Nov%201%202012.pdf>);

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Thirty-first General Synod of the United Church of Christ declares itself an "Immigrant Welcoming Synod" and that it encourages the development of policies dedicated to facilitating the respectful welcome and inclusion of all immigrants into the United States.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the thirty-first General Synod of the United Church of Christ calls on its members, congregations, associations, and conferences to become active "Immigrant Welcoming Congregations and Communities" and that it assist this process by making available the example

resources cited in this resolution along with other resources developed and identified by the Justice and Witness Ministries of the United Church of Christ, UCC members, associations, and conferences who are the United Church of Christ.

FUNDING: The funding for the implementation of the Resolution will be made in accordance with the overall mandates of the affected agencies and the funds available.

IMPLEMENTATION: The Officers of the Church, in consultation with appropriate ministries and other entities of the United Church of Christ, will determine the implementing body.

Appendix C: Resolution Vote to Affirm the Establishment of an Investment Committee for the Conference

Presented by the Board of Directors of the Massachusetts Conference, United Church of Christ

INTRODUCTION

For many years, the Massachusetts Congregational Fund (MCF) has handled the investments of the Massachusetts Conference of the United Church of Christ (MACUCC), the Board for Ministerial Aid, and many local congregations. The Board of Directors of MCF has been elected by the MACUCC Board of Directors. The Board of the MCF has served as an investment committee for the Conference, choosing investment managers and deciding where funds should be invested. Since 2007, those investments have been exclusively in United Church Funds, a national UCC entity which handles investments on behalf of UCC organizations and churches throughout the country.

In 2015, the Board of Directors of the MCF decided that it would better serve our churches and other entities if the MCF were to disband. Depositors will have the option of directly investing in United Church Funds. This will save money in management fees.

However, the closure of the MCF leaves the Massachusetts Conference with no one to advise the MACUCC Board of Directors on investment matters. The Bylaws give the Board the authority to create committees and subcommittees of the Board. However, given the nature of the new committee, the Board seeks Annual Meeting affirmation for its creation.

PROPOSED VOTE

The Annual Meeting affirms the action of the Board of Directors in establishing an Investment Committee for the Conference, as proposed in the 217th Annual Meeting Advance Materials.

PROPOSED STRUCTURE OF AN INVESTMENT COMMITTEE