

1     **A RESOLUTION OF IMPLEMENTATION RECOMMENDING GENDER NEUTRAL**  
2     **RESTROOMS IN CHURCHES AND AT ANNUAL MEETING SITES**

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4     Submitted by the fifteen (or more) delegates to the 149<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting of the Connecticut  
5     Conference of the United Church of Christ

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7     WHEREAS, Peter tells the church: “Above all, show sincere love to each other, because love  
8     brings about the forgiveness of sins. Open your homes to each other without  
9     complaining.” (1 Peter 4:8-9 CEB).”

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11    WHEREAS, we recognize the embodiment of all persons in the beloved community along with  
12    their needs to peaceably handle their own bodily functions; and

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14    WHEREAS, the General Synod of the United Church of Christ in 1985 called upon all settings  
15    of the church to adopt policies of non-discrimination regarding sexual orientation and  
16    covenants of openness and affirmation toward lesbian, gay, bisexual persons in all  
17    settings of the church, and in 1989 the Connecticut Conference UCC declared itself open  
18    to and affirming of lesbian, gay and bisexual persons; and

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20    WHEREAS in 2003 the General Synod of the United Church of Christ called upon all settings of  
21    the church to learn about the realities of transgender experience and expression and  
22    welcome transgender people into membership, ministry and full participation, as a further  
23    embodiment of Open and Affirming commitment; and

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25    WHEREAS in 2013 the Connecticut Conference UCC reaffirmed our commitment to welcoming  
26    and including all people in all roles and activities of the Connecticut Conference of the  
27    United Church of Christ, regardless of sexual orientation, gender identity, or gender  
28    expression; and

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30    WHEREAS, the membership of the United Church of Christ, including the delegates to the  
31    Connecticut Conference Annual Meeting reflects the vast diversity of the Conference;  
32    and,

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34    WHEREAS, delegates to Annual Meetings are asked to remain in sessions lasting several hours  
35    on multiple days;

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37    THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that we the delegates to the 149<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting of the  
38    Connecticut Conference of the United Church of Christ recommend that the Annual  
39    Meeting Planning Committee locate our annual meetings only in facilities with gender  
40    neutral restrooms; and

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42    BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that we call upon the churches of the Connecticut Conference  
43    UCC to consider creating a more perfect welcome by designating a restroom in their  
44    church facilities as gender neutral.

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47 Signed:  
48 Rev. Dr. Susan J. Foster, East Woodstock Congregational Church, UCC, Windham Association  
49 Rev. Jonathan Chapman, Westfield Congregational Church, UCC, Windham Association  
50 Rev. Dr. Susan M. Prichard, Second Congregational Church, UCC, Coventry, Tolland Assoc.  
51 Mrs. Valerie Timmins, First Congregational Church of Willimantic, UCC, Windham Association  
52 Rev. Matthew Emery, Storrs Congregational Church, UCC, Windham Association  
53 Rev. Julia Burkey, First Church in Middletown, UCC, Middlesex Association  
54 Rev. Sarah J. Verasco, First Congregational Church of Guilford, UCC, New Haven East Assoc  
55 Ms. Kathleen Cattanach, First Congregational Church of E Hartford, UCC, Hartford East Assoc.  
56 Rev. Micki Nunn-Miller, UCC in Cornwall, Congregational, Litchfield North Association  
57 Rev. Joseph Blotz, First Church of Christ in Mansfield UCC, Windham Association  
58 Ms. Patricia Sirois, First Congregational Church East Hartford, UCC, Hartford East Association  
59 Mrs. Diane Billings, East Woodstock Congregational Church, UCC, Windham Association  
60 Rev. Dr. Rochelle A. Stackhouse, Church of the Redeemer UCC, New Haven Association  
61 Rev. Dr. Bonnie Scott, The United Church on the Green, UCC, New Haven Association  
62 Rev. Kristen Provost Switzer, Prospect Congregational Church, UCC, Naugatuck Valley Assoc.