

The By-Laws

Article I. Sacraments and Rites

A. Sacraments

1. The baptism of infants and adults shall be administered publically in the House of God when possible, according to the Trinitarian form.
2. The sacrament of the Lord's Supper shall be observed regularly in every congregation. A worship service should be held preparatory to it. The elements used shall be bread and wine. Bread shall be both, or either, leavened or unleavened. Wine shall be either fermented or unfermented. All who have professed their faith in Jesus Christ, including members of other denominations, shall be invited to participate.
3. Administration of sacraments and rites
 - a. Ordained clergy who are assigned pastors of the Unity of the Brethren may administer any and all sacraments of the church.
 - b. Persons who are licensed in accordance with the By-Laws of the Unity of the Brethren may administer the sacraments only in the special ministry for which the license was issued.
 - c. A layperson who has been selected by his or her local congregation and certified by the Ministerial Credentials Committee after adequate training may administer Holy Communion in his or her congregation when the church is without a pastor.

B. Rites

1. Confirmation, ordination, consecration, marriage and burial shall be conducted in reverence and with due solemnity, according to an order expressive of our evangelical tradition.
2. The rite of confirmation admits persons into communicant membership through public confirmation of faith in Jesus Christ as personal Savior. Before admitting candidates for confirmation into full communion with the Church, the Elders shall be satisfied that the candidate understands the fundamental truths of the Christian faith and are governed by them in their life and conduct.
3. Ordained pastors within The Unity of the Brethren (full pastors) shall officiate in the act of ordination.
4. Ordained pastors both full and associate may officiate in the act of consecration.
5. Marriage is an ordinance of God and shall be solemnized in accordance with the Holy Scriptures.
6. Christian burial is a religious rite that should be conducted in accordance with the customs and usages of the Church. *(Funeral services should not be conducted on Sundays except on very exceptional instances.)*

Article II. Congregations

- A. A congregation of the Unity of the Brethren is a body of Christians as identified and organized under the provisions of the Constitution of The Unity of the Brethren.
- B. A congregation shall choose its own name. Such name, however, must be approved by the Synodical Committee. The congregation must include the statement "A congregation of the Unity of the Brethren" following its name in the congregation's Constitution and By-Laws.
- C. Unorganized preaching stations and church plants shall become full members of the Unity of the Brethren after they become organized. They shall be provisional members of the Unity of the Brethren until such a time they formally organize. This status shall empower them to send a representative to the Synodical Committee as well as representatives to the Convention in equal number to the delegates they would possess if they were an organized congregation with voice privileges only.
- D. Should a congregation wish to sever its connection with the Unity of the Brethren, it shall notify the president of the Unity of the Brethren of its intentions. It should not make a complete and final severance until it shall hear the counsel of the Convention. The final decision shall, however, be made by the congregation itself. See the most recent policy and procedure manual of the Unity of the Brethren for the updated procedure for this action.
- E. The congregation which is in official standing with the Unity of the Brethren shall have the privilege and the responsibility to send as many delegates to the Convention of the Unity of the Brethren as is allowed. (*see Article IV*)
- F. Congregations that are not represented for three (3) consecutive Conventions and sends no official excuse, is removed from membership in the Unity of the Brethren because of clear evidence that such a congregation does not care for the fellowship of the Unity of the Brethren and by its own neglectful behavior excludes itself from the Unity of the Brethren.
- G. Congregations who are unable to support or secure a pastor full-time will submit to the leadership of the Executive Committee. The president of the Synodical Committee, along with the Executive Committee, shall meet with the congregation's Board of Elders to discuss the future of the congregation.
- H. When a congregation disbands, the Synodical Committee shall immediately assume legal title and possession of its property and assets for the Unity of the Brethren. If the property of the disbanded church includes a cemetery, the Unity of the Brethren shall arrange for the future maintenance and care of that cemetery.
- I. If a congregation is left without a pastor for any reason, it shall consult with the Pastoral Relations Committee and request aid in filling the vacancy. The congregation shall not issue a call except through the Pastoral Relations Committee.
- J. Each congregation shall give an exact account of its active communicant members as of December 31st each year.

1. The Brethren Fund assessment for each congregation is based upon the annual reporting of the exact active communicant membership of each congregation.
 - a. The Brethren Fund assessment is \$30.00 per active communicant member.
 - b. The assessment is payable in full by December 31st of each year.
 - c. The breakdown of the assessment is as follows:

10%	Administrative Fund
10%	as a subsidy to the Brethren Journal
25%	to the Hus School Encampment
20%	for Church Extensions, home missions, or some other worthy cause
35%	to be placed in a Contingency Fund with the Synodical Committee having the authority to use the Contingency Fund where needed most in the work of the Unity of the Brethren
2. The number of delegates to represent each congregation at the Convention of the Unity of the Brethren is determined by the number of active communicant members reported.

Article III. Office of the Pastoral Ministry

- A. General Statement: The authority for licensure, ordination, and certification shall be vested in the Synodical Committee. Installation shall be the concern of the congregation.
- B. Ministry Internship Program: The Ministry Internship Program's purpose is to facilitate a means of mentorship between pastors and prospective pastors, to promote and educate youth of the Unity who have an interest in a pastoral vocation, and to ensure the successful continuation of the doctrinal integrity of the Unity of the Brethren for future generations.
- C. Students for the Ministry
 1. A student for the ministry is a member of the Church who feels called to pursue a vocation in Christian ministry, and enters upon a course of study to prepare for that office.
 2. A student for the ministry shall make due application to come under the care of the Synodical Committee. Application and educational requirements are outlined in the policy and procedure manual of The Unity of the Brethren.
- D. Candidates for the Ministry
 1. Every candidate for ministry who asks to be ordained by the Unity of the Brethren and received as a full pastor must fulfill the requirements as outlined in the policy and procedure manual of The Unity of the Brethren.
 2. Non-Unity of the Brethren member candidates who desire ordination by the Unity of the Brethren and received as a full pastor must fulfill the requirements as outlined in the policy and procedure manual of The Unity of the Brethren.
- E. Pastors

1. A pastor receives a call from a Brethren congregation through the Pastoral Relations Committee. A pastor shall not accept a call that does not come through that committee.
2. A pastor serving in the Unity of the Brethren shall be considered a member of the Unity of the Brethren at large. As such the pastor will fill the role of a spiritual advisor of the congregation or parish in which he or she is the official pastor, and not as a regular member. Pastors shall not vote or hold office in the congregation(s) they serve.
 - a. The rite of ordination admits candidates for the ministry who have satisfied the educational requirements as outlined in the policy and procedure manual of The Unity of the Brethren.
 - b. Ordination grants to the pastor the authority to (a) preach the Word of God, (b) administer the sacraments and officiate the rites, and (c) bear rule in the church in accordance with the Constitution of the Unity of the Brethren.
 - c. Only ordained pastors within the Unity of the Brethren shall officiate the rite of ordination.
3. Pastors of the Unity of the Brethren are employees of the denomination. The congregations, where the pastors serve, act in behalf (as agents) of the denomination in paying salaries. The Synodical Committee, with information furnished by local church treasurers, will file all appropriate employment forms. **Pastors of the Unity of the Brethren are employees of the churches to which they are duly called. The local church is responsible for payment of salaries and shall, in accordance with the employment laws, file all appropriate employment forms.**
4. No pastor shall perform official functions among members of a fellow pastor without that pastor's expressed permission (according to 1 Peter 4:15), nor shall a pastor have the right to meddle in the affairs of other Brethren congregations who have their own pastor.
5. The pastor shall endeavor to be present at all meetings of the congregation and Elders.
6. Each pastor may be requested to present a report to the Convention on the spiritual status of the congregation in which he or she serves.
7. A pastor may seek the counsel of the President at any time concerning a possible change of charge. If a congregation cannot be served effectively, that pastor shall consult the Pastoral Relations Committee about a possible change of charge.
8. Not only shall every pastor in the Unity of the Brethren be permitted a change of charge, but in certain circumstances pastors shall be instructed by the Synodical Committee to do so.
9. An ordained pastor who desires to be admitted into the Unity of the Brethren as an ordained pastor from another denomination, shall meet the requirements as outlined in the policy and procedure manual of The Unity of the Brethren and receive the recommendation of the Ministerial Credentials Committee.
 - a. The candidate shall also (a) submit a colloquy with the Synodical Committee to prove that he/she agrees with the Confession and the order of the Unity of the Brethren. (b) sign the Constitution and By-Laws of the Unity of the

- Brethren as proof that he/she wishes to abide by them. (c) present a letter of honorable dismissal from his/her previous denomination. (d) complete a six-month period of mutual acquaintance and appraisal before officially being accepted. During this time, the candidate shall undergo mentorship by one or more Unity of the Brethren pastors as recommended by the Ministerial Credentials Committee. The focus of study should be on the history, worship, and practice of the Unity of the Brethren including its Constitution and By-Laws and organizational structure.
- b. The pastor would be received as a full pastor and may apply for ordination in the Unity of the Brethren only after this six-month period of acquaintance and appraisal and upon the subsequent two-thirds (2/3) vote of the Synodical Committee.
10. A pastor in good standing with another denomination may be called as an associate pastor in the Unity of the Brethren for the purpose of supply. Such a pastor shall enjoy the normal rights and privileges of the pastors of the Unity of the Brethren and shall be eligible to hold limited office in the Unity of the Brethren after a minimum of five (5) years of service.
 11. A pastor in full standing in the Unity of the Brethren may elect to retire from full-time ministry in a local congregation at the age of 65.
 - a. A pastor wishing to retire shall submit written notification of this intention to the Pastoral Relations Committee at least nine months prior to the anticipated retirement date. The Pastoral Relations Committee shall immediately forward the pastor's request to the president of the Synodical Committee, who shall bring that request before the next scheduled Synodical Committee meeting.
 - b. A pastor shall be considered officially retired when the announced retirement date has been approved by a simple majority of the Synodical Committee and when that date has been reached.
 - c. An individual's call to vocational ministry in the Unity of the Brethren is not to be understood as synonymous with the divine call to pastoral ministry. Therefore, even though a pastor may retire from full-time parish ministry, that pastor shall still retain the right to perform priestly functions; being careful to observe proper protocol with pastors of local congregations.
 - d. A retired pastor shall be considered a member of the Unity of the Brethren at large. The pastor is encouraged to become active in the life of a local Unity of the Brethren congregation, being careful to defer the spiritual counsel of that congregation to the official pastor. The retired pastor shall not vote or hold office in the local congregation, but will retain full rights and privileges of a member at large in the Unity of the Brethren (including Convention membership, membership on the Synodical Committee, and the right to hold executive office).
 - e. Should a retired pastor desire to formally join a local congregation, this may be done at any time, but the pastor shall immediately notify the Pastoral Relations Committee and shall forfeit his or her at-large membership in the

Unity of the Brethren (including his/her automatic memberships on the Synodical Committee and in the Church Convention).

12. Pastoral License

- a. The Synodical committee shall have the power to issue a one-year (1) renewable pastoral license to a person who possesses theological training and is otherwise qualified for the ministry, but may not have completed educational requirements and who has the recommendation of the Ministerial Credentials Committee.
- b. A license shall convey the rights and privileges of ordination including the power to conduct funerals, weddings, and to administer the sacraments. These rights and privileges shall be limited to the ministry for which the Synodical Committee issues the license.
- c. A license will be renewed only if the licensee demonstrates proof of suitable continuing education as well as current involvement and satisfactory process in the specific ministry for which the license was first issued and after the continued recommendation of the Ministerial Credentials Committee.
- d. A person holding this license is considered to be a member of the Synodical Committee and shall be eligible to hold limited office at the denominational level after five (5) years of service.

Article IV. Conventions

- A. The following general rules apply to the conduct of Conventions.
- B. The Official Membership of the Convention shall be composed of the following:
 1. The delegates of local congregations in good standing with the Unity of the Brethren who have presented proper credentials.
 2. Members of the Synodical Committee as the administrative officials of the Unity of the Brethren.
 - a. The executive officers, lay and pastoral, who are also the officers of the Convention.
 - b. The other lay members as elected officials.
 - c. The other pastors of the Unity of the Brethren as spiritual advisors and representatives of the spiritual work of the Unity of the Brethren.
 3. Members of the Pastoral Relations Committee.
 4. Those called, commissioned, and actively engaged in specialized ministries through the Unity of the Brethren.

Anyone thus regarded as an official member of the Convention has the full privilege of Deliberation and voting and is eligible for election to office. (Exceptions are associate and licensed pastors, who both need five (5) years of service to be eligible to limited hold office.) All non-official members of the Convention by permission of the majority of the official members of the Convention on specific items. The proceedings at the convention shall be open to the public, unless the Convention rules otherwise.

- C. The regular Convention shall be held the first half of July in accordance with the wishes of the host congregation after consultation with the Synodical Committee. The Convention shall be biennial, held in a place designated by the latest Convention. In an emergency situation the Synodical Committee shall have the right to change the time or place (or both) designated for the Convention.
- D. The regular Convention shall be opened with a Worship Service with administration of Holy Communion for the official membership of the Convention, as well as for those guests the solace of the Lord's Supper.
- E. The time and place of the Convention shall be announced in the official publication of the Unity of the Brethren four weeks prior to the opening of the Convention.
- F. If one-half (1/2) of the congregations in the Unity of the Brethren or the Executive Committee, as confirmed by a majority of the Synodical Committee at a meeting or by mail (either ground or electronically) shall desire to have a special Convention, it shall be the President's responsibility to call such a Convention through the official channels. In announcing a special Convention, and at the convening of that Convention, the purpose(s) of the Convention shall be clearly stated. Proper notice of such a Convention must be given to the Unity of the Brethren Congregations at least four (4) weeks prior to that special Convention. In a special Convention only the stated purposes and directly-related items may be considered and acted upon.
- G. Representation at the Convention is based on one delegate per 50 members or greater fraction thereof in each congregation entitled to be represented. Congregations with less than 76 members are entitled to one delegate, from 76 to 125 members two delegates, etc.
- H. Delegates and alternates to the Convention should be elected by January 1st, of the Convention year. The secretary of the congregation shall notify the secretary of the Unity of the Brethren of the election of the delegates. The minimum age of delegates and alternates shall be 18.
- I. At the Convention the delegates of the individual congregations shall deliver proof of their election by official certificate. This certificate shall be signed by the pastor and two elders of the congregation.
- J. The Convention shall remain in session until all matters under consideration shall have been settled; however, it shall never remain in session longer than three days.
- K. The Executive Officers of the Synodical Committee shall serve as officers of the Convention.
- L. The Synodical Committee President presides over the Convention, appoints the Convention committees (the president names two-thirds of the Convention committee members, and the first vice-president one-third, provided the Convention does not object), and endeavors to keep all proceedings proper and orderly, signs all approved Convention minutes, casts his or her vote in case of a tie. If the president wishes to participate in the deliberation, he or she shall ask the first vice-president to take the chair.
- M. The Secretary of the Synodical Committee shall be the recording secretary of the Convention and shall keep accurate minutes of each session of the Convention to be

read at the beginning of each new session. Before the adjournment the secretary shall read all the minutes and shall co-sign them with the president.

- N. A roll call of all members of the Convention shall be taken and recorded in the minutes at the beginning of each session.
- O. A simple majority of the delegates shall constitute a quorum, i.e. a body empowered with deliberation and decision.
- P. Traveling expenses and meals of the delegates, officials, pastors and pastoral students shall be prorated among the delegates and will be paid by the congregations according to their representation. The host congregation shall not pay any traveling expenses. Ministers of the Unity of the Brethren and members of the Synodical Committee shall have all their Convention expenses and traveling expenses paid.
 - 1. The traveling expenses of the members of the Convention shall be determined on the basis of the distance between the host congregation and the home congregation.
 - 2. A Convention Expense Fund is established. The Synodical Committee shall compute an estimated average Convention delegate expense. Each congregation will be requested to send in an amount equal to the average delegate expense times the number of delegates it sends to the Convention.
 - 3. Automobile mileage expenses shall be paid based on a per mile rate set by vote of the Synodical Committee at the regular meeting prior to the Convention.
- Q. The Convention shall have the right to investigate any accusations or grievances against congregations, individuals and pastors and make decisions concerning them. If it should prove necessary, the Convention may call in members of the congregations as witnesses.
- R. If such congregations, members or pastors should stubbornly resist the directives of the Convention and continue without making an effort to change, the Convention shall have the authority to exclude them from its supervision and fellowship.
- S. The following Convention decisions shall become valid only after a simple majority of the congregations of the Unity of the Brethren have approved them in a referendum by a simple majority vote in a congregational meeting called for this purpose: (a) decisions concerning financial matters, (b) any decisions receiving a simple majority vote, but failing to receive a two-thirds (2/3) majority vote by the Convention's membership, and (c) Constitution and By-Laws revisions (which must be approved by the appropriate referendum vote as directed by the most current Constitution and By-Laws.
- T. The results of the congregational referendum voting concerning the decisions of the Convention shall be sent within 30 days by the secretaries of the local congregations to the secretary of the Unity of the Brethren along with the proper minutes.
- U. If a congregation does not use its voting privilege within 30 days it shall be counted as favoring all the decisions.
- V. Immediately after the conclusion of this period, the as yet officiating Synodical Committee shall meet in order to conclude its work and examine the voting results of the congregations concerning the decisions of the Convention. It shall also install the new Synodical Committee, if duly affirmed in the referendum, into office.

- W. Questionnaires shall be sent to the secretaries of the individual congregations annual in the month of December and shall be returned to the secretary of the Unity of the Brethren in January.
- X. All Convention printed reports shall be completed with no further comments made at the Convention, except to answer questions concerning reports by consent of the Convention.
- Y. The decisions of Conventions, except Constitution and By-Laws decisions, are valid until the next regular Convention and will automatically expire unless renewed or designated as continuing actions.

Article V. Officers

- A. All official members of the Convention, with the exception of associate pastors and licensed pastors who have not yet served for the required five (5) years or bound by other limitations, shall be eligible for election into the individual offices listed in the Constitution.
- B. The officers shall be elected for a term of two years (exceptions: the officers of the Pastoral Relations Committee and the Board of Grants and Bequests are elected to varying terms of service) and shall perform the duties of that office during the confirmed period. They shall be responsible to the next Convention for their official acts.
- C. In order to be elected, a candidate must receive a simple majority of the total number of votes cast. If no candidate receives a majority vote on the first ballot, then the two candidates receiving the highest number of votes will be voted upon in a second ballot.
- D. A record of the number of votes received by the candidate elected and the one with the next highest number of votes shall be entered into the minutes.

Article VI. Synodical Committee

- A. The Synodical Committee shall consist of:
 - 1. All pastors of the Unity of the Brethren (including associate pastors and licensed pastors).
 - 2. Seven executive officers (at least three laypeople) elected by the Convention. In selection of the laypeople, not more than one layperson shall be chosen from an individual congregation.
 - 3. One lay representative elected from each congregation at a duly called congregational meeting.
- B. The executive officers of the Synodical Committee shall consist of the president, first vice-president, second vice-president, third vice-president, secretary, financial secretary, and treasurer elected by the Convention from the membership of the Unity of the Brethren through the work of a nominating committee appointed to function before the Convention. Nominations may also be received from the floor of the Convention.

1. Tenure of office of the executive officers shall be limited to two consecutive terms (four years) in the same office, and four consecutive terms (eight years) as executive officers of the Synodical Committee.
 2. Of the seven members, at least three shall be laypeople and at least three shall be fully ordained pastors in the Unity of the Brethren.
- C. The Synodical Committee will normally meet twice a year, in the spring and fall, and serve as the general policy-making group. The seven duly-elected executive officers will execute the policies of the Committee and handle matters between the spring and fall meetings. These executive officers will meet as often as is necessary to do their work.
- D. If a vacancy occurs among the executive officers of the Synodical Committee, the Synodical Committee shall choose the appropriate alternate (lay or ministerial) to correspond with the By-Laws. The office that such an alternate might hold will be determined by the Synodical Committee according to the following paragraphs:
1. Should a vacancy occur in the office of the President, then the First Vice-President shall become the President and the resulting vacancy shall be filled accordingly.
 2. Should a vacancy occur in any of the other offices, the Synodical Committee has the right to designate the office for which the alternate is most capable of filling, and then shall fill such other vacant office from among the officers.
- E. The Synodical Committee shall be the officiating body of the Unity of the Brethren between Conventions and shall administer all her current affairs.
- F. The secretary of the Synodical Committee shall keep accurate records and copies of all letters.
- G. The executive officers of the Synodical Committee shall be a clearing house for programs, dedications, rallies, etc. All events shall be announced beforehand so there will be no conflict with other events of the Unity of the Brethren.
- H. The minutes of the Synodical Committee meetings and executive officers' meetings shall be published in The Brethren Journal only insofar as their content is a concern of the general public.
- I. The Convention of the Unity of the Brethren shall establish a maximum sum by which the Synodical Committee may be directed in its expenditures on any particular project which it undertakes for the welfare of the church.
- J. Any vacancy in any Convention-elected office, other than the president of the Synodical Committee, in the period between Conventions shall be filled by appointment of the Synodical Committee. Vacancies in the lay representative positions will be filled by appointment of the Synodical Committee in accordance with the wishes of the affected congregations.
- K. Mailing and other miscellaneous expenses (travel, personal, etc.) shall be reimbursed to the members of the Synodical Committee from the Brethren Administrative Fund.
- L. The fiscal year of the Unity of the Brethren shall be the calendar year.

Article VII. Executive Officers of the Synodical Committee

- A. Descriptions of the duties of the President, Vice Presidents, Secretary, Financial Secretary and Treasurer are outlined in the policy and procedure manual of the Unity of the Brethren.

Article VIII. Pastoral Relations Committee

- A. The Convention elects a Pastoral Relations Committee to coordinate the calling and placing of pastors in the Unity of the Brethren. The Committee shall consist of four (4) lay members of the Unity of the Brethren, not serving on the Synodical Committee, and one (1) pastor, the Pastor to Pastor's elected by clergy at each Convention. An outline of the duties of the Pastoral Relations Committee included in the policy and procedure manual of the Unity of the Brethren.

Article IX. Board of Christian Education

- A. A Board of Christian Education shall be established by the Unity of the Brethren to further develop and promote a program of Christian education. Duties of this board are outlined in the policy and procedure manual of the Unity of the Brethren.

Article X. Hus School Encampment, Board of Trustees and Directors

- A. The Unity of the Brethren and its affiliate organizations shall maintain an encampment known as the Hus School Encampment.
- B. The Hus School Encampment shall be incorporated under the law of the State of Texas as an organized service of the Unity of the Brethren.
- C. The Encampment shall be governed by a Board of Trustees of sufficient number to insure proper administration. The duties of said Board of Trustees and Directors are outlined in the Unity of the Brethren policy and procedure manual.

Article XI. Board of Foreign Missions & Home Mission Board

- A. A Board of Foreign Missions is established by the Unity of the Brethren for the supervision of its program of world missions. It shall be responsible to the Convention and under the supervision of the Synodical Committee. The duties of this board are outlined in the Unity of the Brethren policy and procedure manual.
- B. A Home Mission Board is established by the Unity of the Brethren for the supervision of its program of home missions. It shall be responsible to the Convention and under the supervision of the Synodical Committee. The duties of this board are outlined in the Unity of the Brethren policy and procedure manual.
- C. All contributions for mission work shall be sent to the Unity of the Brethren Financial Secretary. Funds shall be designated for either foreign or home missions. If funds are not designated, they will be equally divided between both funds.

**Article XII. The Publication of
The Unity of the Brethren
The Brethren Journal**

- A. The publication of the Unity of the Brethren is The Brethren Journal.
- B. Rules and regulations regarding the production of this publication are outlined in the policy and procedure manual of the Unity of the Brethren.

Article XIII. Interdenominational Relations

- A. The Unity of the Brethren shall, through the Synodical Committee appointments, take part and be represented at approved interdenominational fellowships.
- B. Congregations are encouraged to give an annual contribution for the support of approved interdenominational work.

Article XIV. Benefits Programs for Pastors

- A. The Unity of the Brethren, being conscious of its responsibility to its pastors, has established two programs for pastors serving this denomination.
 - 1. A retirement program.
 - 2. An income protection program.
- B. These programs are financed by the Unity, through her congregations, and the pastors. Admission requirements and other guidelines are outlined in the policy and procedure manual of the Unity of the Brethren.

Article XV. Board for Grants and Bequests

- A. A Board for Grants and Bequests is established by the Unity of the Brethren.
- B. The Purpose of the Board will be to encourage, receive, and manage special gifts and bequests for the benefit of specified agencies or undertakings of the Unity of the Brethren. The Board shall formulate rules and regulations under which it will function and list them accordingly in the policy and procedure manual of the Unity of the Brethren.

Article XVI. Youth Coordinator

- A. The Youth Coordinator of the Unity of the Brethren shall generally be responsible for providing assistance and support to youth groups on a local, regional, and Unity-wide

basis. This assistance may include a variety of duties as outlined in the policy and procedure manual of the Unity of the Brethren.

Article XVII. Method of Amendment

As these By-Laws are an interpretation of the Constitution of the Unity of the Brethren and become the administrative rules for guidance of officials and members of the Unity of the Brethren, they are subject to change through deletion or expansion at any Convention of the Unity of the Brethren. If the Convention approves the changes by a two-thirds (2/3) majority vote of the Convention, and a simple majority of the congregations approve them also by a simple majority of their votes during subsequent referendum after each Unity of the Brethren Convention at which point, such changes become a part of these By-Laws.

The Policy and Procedure Manual of the Unity of the Brethren are guidelines by which the Unity of the Brethren works to fulfill her ministry. These guidelines are subject to change through deletion or expansion at any Synodical Committee meeting of the Unity of the Brethren.