

Proposed Membership Bylaws	Current Membership Bylaws
<p><b>ARTICLE VI: Membership</b></p> <p>St. John’s has three types of membership as outlined in the following sections.</p> <p><b>Section 1. Active Membership</b></p> <p>a. <u>Conditions of Active Membership:</u>                      The conditions of Active Membership are as follows:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. a person who is at least sixteen years of age;</li> <li>2. who has signed the Membership Commitment Statement, as set forth below; and</li> <li>3. who has signed the Membership Book in the presence of the Minister or the chairperson of the Membership Committee, as well as one member of the Board of Trustees (hereafter referred to as the Board).</li> </ol> <p>b. <u>Membership Commitment Statement:</u></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. The Membership Commitment Statement reads as follows: "I am in accord with the purpose of St. John’s Unitarian Universalist Church and its guarantee of religious freedom to its Minister and members. I commit myself, as far as possible, to be engaged in the life of the congregation, contributing my time and talents to the support of the church and its work. I understand that financial support for church programs and denominational affiliation is an expectation of membership and I will make an annual financial contribution of record. I wish to become a member of St. John's Unitarian Universalist Church."</li> </ol>	<p><b>ARTICLE VI: Membership</b></p> <p>St. John’s has four types of members: Full, Emeritus, Youth, and Inactive as outlined in the following sections.</p> <p><b>Section 1. Full Membership:</b></p> <p>a. <u>Conditions of Full Membership:</u>                      Any person who (1) signs a Pledge of Membership, as set forth below, and who has (2) reached the age of sixteen, becomes a member by signing and (3) signs the Membership Register in the presence of the Minister or the chairperson of the Membership Committee, and one member of the Board of Trustees (hereafter referred to as the Board) shall become a Full Member.</p> <p>b. <u>Pledge of Membership:</u>                      The Pledge of Membership reads as follows: "I am in accord with the purpose of this church and its guarantee of religious freedom to its Minister and members. I pledge myself, as far as possible, to contribute my time and talents and money to the support of the church and to share in its work. I understand that responsible financial support for church programs and denominational affiliation is an expectation of membership. I wish to become a member of St. John's Unitarian Universalist Church." The purpose (Article IV) shall be on the Pledge of Membership.</p>

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<p>2. The Purpose and Mission (Article IV) shall be included on the Membership Commitment Statement.</p> <p>3. There is no minimum financial contribution required. The financial contribution of record may be received via a check, or an electronic transfer of funds, or cash identified as coming from a member, or a gift of financial holdings. The contribution may be given at any frequency (annually, monthly, weekly, or periodically). If an active member finds they are unable to make any financial contribution for the year, they may contact the Minister to request that a contribution be made on their behalf.</p> <p>c. <u>Privileges of Active Membership:</u> The privileges of Active Membership are as follows:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Members who have signed the Membership Book at least 60 days prior to the Annual Meeting and/or Special Congregational Meetings are eligible to vote at the meeting.</li> <li>2. Eligibility for serving in elected positions is also acquired 60 days following the signing the Membership Book.</li> <li>3. The Board at its discretion may identify non-elected roles within the congregation for which membership is a requirement.</li> <li>4. Members may be chosen to serve as delegates representing St. John’s at the Unitarian Universalist Association General Assembly.</li> </ol>	<p>c. <u>Privileges of Full Membership:</u> Full members acquire the right to vote in the Annual Meeting and Special Congregational Meetings 90 days following the signing of the membership register. Eligibility for serving in elected positions is also acquired 90 days following the signing the membership register.</p>

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<p><b>Section 2. Emeritus Membership</b></p> <p>a. <u>Conditions of Emeritus Membership:</u>            A person who has been an Active Member of St. John's for an extended period of time and who is, because of extenuating circumstances such as age or infirmity, no longer able to actively participate at St. John's, may be granted the status of Emeritus Member. An Emeritus Member is counted as a Friend for the annual UUA membership count. There are no financial or service obligations for Emeritus Members. Names are submitted by the Membership Review Committee to the Board for approval.</p> <p>b. <u>Privileges of Emeritus Membership:</u>            Emeritus Members are included in the Church Directory and retain privileges of Active Membership.</p>	<p><b>Section 2. Emeritus-Member:</b></p> <p>a. <u>Conditions of Emeritus-Member</u>            A person who has been an actively participating member of St. John's for an extended period of time and who is, because of age or infirmity, no longer able to actively participate at St. John's, may be granted the status of Emeritus-Member. An Emeritus-Member will be counted as a Friend for the annual UUA membership count and will not be counted for the annual UUA/Region dues. Names will be submitted by the Membership Review Committee to the Board of Trustees for approval.</p> <p>b. <u>Privileges of Emeritus-Member</u>            Emeritus-Member will be included in the Church Directory and retain privileges of full membership.</p> <p><b><del>Section 3. Youth Membership:</del></b></p> <p>a. <u><del>Conditions of Youth Membership:</del></u>  <del>Any youth who has reached the age of twelve and has not reached the age of sixteen and who has completed the Coming of Age Program shall become a youth member of the church by signing the Youth Membership Register in the presence of the Minister or the chairperson of the Membership Committee and a member of the Board.</del></p> <p>b. <u><del>Status:</del></u>  <del>The youth membership status recognizes the individual as having taken the first step toward Full adult membership in the</del></p>

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<p><b>Section 3. Inactive Membership</b></p> <p>a. <u>Conditions of Inactive Membership:</u>            An Active Member is moved to Inactive Member status when any one of the following has occurred:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. An Active Member has provided a written notice of resignation.</li> <li>2. An Active Member has died.</li> <li>3. An Active Member (a) has not honored the St. John’s Membership Commitment Statement for a period of two years; and (b) the Membership Review Committee has attempted to contact the person to explain that they may be moved to Inactive Member status as well as what is necessary to maintain Active Member status; this will include the offer that the Member may contact</li> </ol>	<p><del>church. Youth membership does not entitle the individual to the privilege of voting in Congregational Meetings and elections although youth members are encouraged to participate in Congregational Meetings.</del></p> <p><del>c. Transition and Termination of Youth Membership:</del></p> <p><del>At age sixteen, a youth member will be eligible to join the church as an adult member as elsewhere provided in this section. A youth member may resign from youth membership by notifying the Board in writing. Receipt of such a notice will be acknowledged by the Secretary of the Board in writing. No youth member shall be dropped from youth membership prior to age sixteen except after written notice of resignation.</del></p> <p><b>Section 4. Inactive Membership:</b></p> <p>a. <u>Inactivity:</u>            A Membership Review Committee will meet annually to recommend that the Board of Trustees transfer to the inactive list any member who in the prior year has made no identifiable commitment of time, talents or money to the support of the church. Prior to recommending inactive status, the Committee will contact the member and will consider extenuating circumstances or an annual commitment of identifiable time, talents or money to the support of the church in the coming year.</p>

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<p>the Minister to request a contribution be made on their behalf, should this be necessary; and (c) the Membership Review Committee has recommended to the Board the change to Inactive status; and (d) the Board has voted to accept this recommendation.</p> <p>4. An Active Member (a) has demonstrated behavior that is dangerous, disruptive and/or offensive as defined in Section 4; and (b) the individual's behavior has been reviewed by the committee designated by the Board for review of such situations, and that committee has recommended to the Board that the individual be placed on Inactive Member status until such time as they have met all conditions set forth by the committee; and (c) the Board has voted with a two-thirds majority to approve the recommendations of the committee designated by the Board for review of such situations.</p> <p>b. <u>Impact of Inactive Membership:</u></p> <p>1. An inactive member (a) will not be shown on the lists or statistics of membership, and (b) will not be a voting member at Annual or Special Congregational meetings, and (c) may not serve in elected positions or non-elected roles within the congregation for which Active Member status is a requirement.</p> <p>c. <u>Reactivation of Active Membership:</u></p> <p>1. Inactive Members who wish to return to Active Member status are required to complete the usual process to become an Active Member, as outlined in these bylaws.</p>	<p><b>Current Membership Bylaws</b></p> <p>b. <u>Conditions of Inactive Membership:</u></p> <p>An inactive member will not be shown on the lists or statistics of membership and will not be a voting member at Annual or Special Congregational meetings and may not serve in elected positions.</p> <p>c. <u>Reactivation of Membership:</u></p> <p>Transfer to the list of active members will occur if the inactive member notifies the Membership Committee in writing of this wish to become active and renews a pledge to contribute, as far as possible, of time, talents and money to the support of this</p>

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<p><b>Section 4. Management of Dangerous, Disruptive, and/or Offensive Behavior</b></p> <p>a. <u>Secure atmosphere supports openness:</u> While openness to a wide variety of individuals is one of the prime values held by our congregation and expressed in our denomination’s purposes and principles, we affirm the belief that our congregation must maintain a secure atmosphere where such openness can exist.</p> <p>b. <u>Dangerous, disruptive and/or offensive behavior:</u> If a Member is behaving in a dangerous, disruptive and/or offensive manner, as described below, they may be referred by congregants, minister, staff, or Board members to be reviewed by the committee designated by the Board for such review.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Dangerous behavior: the individual is the source of a threat or perceived threat to persons or property.</li> <li>2. Disruptive behavior: the individual’s behavior is interfering with church activities and/or hinders the church’s ability to achieve its mission.</li> <li>3. Offensive behavior: the individual’s behavior is likely to drive existing members and/or visitors away.</li> </ol>	<p>church and to share in its work. The member shall acquire the privilege of voting and the ability to run for elected positions on the ninetieth (90) day following receipt of the notice of intent to become active.</p> <p>d. <u>Suspension after Disruptive or Threatening Behavior:</u> The Committee on Achieving Congregational Harmony (COACH) may recommend that the Board suspend from active membership an individual whose behavior seriously threatens the community. The Minister and Board President may jointly refer an individual to the Committee, or either one may do so in conjunction with another Member of the Board. Unless overruled at a Congregational Meeting, the Board may suspend an individual from active membership and all St. John’s activities and presence on church property for up to three years and identify pre-conditions for reinstatement. The individual may apply in writing to the Board President for reinstatement at the end of the suspension period. The Board President refers the application to, COACH, which reviews adherence to pre-conditions for reinstatement. As a part of this review process, personally affected members of the community will be given an opportunity to appear before COACH to discuss information relevant to the applicant's adherence to pre-conditions. If, in the view of COACH, all pre-conditions have been met, reinstatement will be recommended to the Board of Trustees.</p>

Posted January 1, 2019

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<p><i>Note: The proposed "<b>Section 3. Inactive Membership, Conditions of Inactive Membership</b>" has language corresponding to <b>Section 4</b>.</i></p>	<p><b>Section 4. Termination of Membership:</b> No member shall be dropped from the membership in the church except after receipt of written notice of resignation or after the member's death.</p>