

**ARTICLES OF FEDERATION
of the
HEALDSBURG COMMUNITY CHURCH¹**

November 2001

**Article I
NAME**

The name of this organization shall be Healdsburg Community Church. All references to the Healdsburg Community Church in these Articles of Federation shall refer to and be the corporation of The Methodist Church of Healdsburg and the corporation of The First Presbyterian Church of Healdsburg.

**Article II
OFFICE OF THE FEDERATION**

The federation shall maintain its principal place of business in the city of Healdsburg, Sonoma County, California, but may have offices and transact business at such other places as the Board of Trustees may from time to time permit.

**Article III
MEMBERSHIP**

The membership of this church shall be composed of the members of the Methodist Church of Healdsburg, and the Healdsburg Presbyterian Church and all others who unite, or desire to unite, by profession of faith, reaffirmation of faith, or by letter from any Christian Church, and are received in the manner prescribed by the Methodist Church and/or the Presbyterian Church of the USA

**Article IV
CHURCH COUNCIL**

The Healdsburg Community Church shall be governed by a Church Council consisting of twelve members elected for a period of three years. At the annual congregational meeting each year, four persons shall be elected to the Church Council for a term of three years. No member of the Council shall be eligible for re-election until one year shall have elapsed after his retirement from office.

The Church Council shall direct the use of all properties for the work of the Church, shall have charge of raising and expanding funds, shall be an advisory board to plan with the pastor the program of Church work, shall employ janitors and such persons as are necessary to care for

¹ At the Healdsburg Federated Church Stated Council Meeting on October 9, 2001 the Council approved to adopt **Healdsburg Community Church** as the name change recommended by the Envisioning Team.

At a duly noticed Special Congregational Meeting on November 4, 2001 the congregation voted by secret written ballot and approved changing the name from Healdsburg Federated Church to **Healdsburg Community Church**, and all appropriate legal and necessary changes in respect to corporation, by-laws, and Denominational bodies.

the property, and may delegate to either denominational board or a committee any matters in connection with the work of the Church; may select the Sunday School Superintendent, counselors of young people's groups, and appoint committees as may be necessary, and supervise all forms of work of the Church.

The Pastor shall be ex-officio chairman of the Church Council. Within ten days after the annual meeting of the congregation, the Church Council shall meet and elect a vice-chairman, secretary, and treasurer.

The chairman shall preside at the meetings of the Council, shall call special meetings when desired and act in any capacity generally devolving on the chairman. In the absence of the chairman, the vice-chairman shall assume his duties.

The secretary shall keep a complete record of the proceedings of the meetings of the Church Council and of the congregation.

The treasurer shall see that a complete record is kept of all contributions and loose offerings given for the support of the church program, and shall see that a statement is rendered to each contributor at the end of each quarter and a summary statement be given to the Church Council each month.

The Church Council shall appoint a finance committee consisting of five members including the treasurer. Three members shall constitute a quorum. This committee shall prepare and present to the Council, for approval, a current expense budget which shall be an estimate of the operating cost of the local church program for the coming year. This budget shall also include recommended amounts to be paid for the support of the objectives of the Methodist and Presbyterian Churches and such other causes for the advancement of Christianity as the Church Council may direct. Upon approval of the budget by the Council, it shall be presented to the Congregation for adoption.

Eight members of the Church Council shall constitute a quorum.

Article V BOARD OF TRUSTEES

The Board of Trustees of the Healdsburg Community Church shall be composed of three Trustees of the Methodist Church of Healdsburg and three Trustees of the Healdsburg Presbyterian Church. This Board shall serve to coordinate the actions of the two corporations within the Federation.

At its first meeting, the Board of Trustees shall elect a chairman, vice-chairman, and secretary from the members of the Board. The treasurer of the church as chosen by the Council shall be ex-officio treasurer of the Board of Trustees unless such treasurer has been elected as a member of the Board of Trustees.

Meetings of the Board of Trustees shall be held at the call of the chairman of either corporation, upon notice from the Church Council, or at the call of its own chairman.

Four trustees shall constitute a quorum.

**Article VI
PASTORS**

Pastors of the Healdsburg Community Church shall be chosen from the Presbyterian Church of the USA in accordance with the procedures of that denomination.

**Article VII
PROPERTY**

The ownership of all property shall be vested one-half in the Corporation of the Methodist Church of Healdsburg and one-half in the Corporation of the Healdsburg Presbyterian Church.

**Article VIII
ANNUAL MEETINGS**

The annual meeting of the congregation shall be held in January of each year, the date and hour to be set by the Church Council. Each organization of the church shall submit a written report for inclusion in the Annual Report booklet. The election of various officers and members of the Church Council shall take place at this time. The Pastor and the treasurer/financial secretary shall make annual reports.

**Article IX
VOTING**

For the purpose of carrying on the business of congregational meetings, all active members shall be entitled to vote, providing each voter shall be at least 21 years of age. Whenever in these Articles a two-thirds vote is specified, it shall be interpreted to mean two-thirds of all those present and voting.

The manner of voting is to be determined by the Church Council.

An active or communicant member shall be defined in the Discipline of the Methodist Church and/or the Book of Order of the Presbyterian Church of the USA.

**Article X
LIABILITY**

No officer or member of any board acting for this federation shall be personally liable for the debts, liabilities, or the obligations of the federation.

Article XI
DENOMINATIONAL RELATIONS

Officers of the California Conference of the Methodist Church and the Presbytery of the Redwoods shall be contacted upon matters of concern to the parent churches and their officers shall be invited to attend the annual meetings of this church.

Article XII
AMENDMENTS

The Articles of Federation may be amended by a two-thirds vote of the members at a regular annual meeting, or at a special meeting of the congregation, notice of which has been given from the pulpit at two regular Sunday morning services. This notice shall state the time and place of the meeting, the reason therefore, and the proposed change in the Articles.

Any amendments to these Articles before becoming effective must be approved by the California Conference of the Methodist Church and the Presbytery of the Redwoods.

Article XIII
ADOPTION

These Articles of Federation shall be effective when approved by a two-thirds vote of the members of the Healdsburg Community Church at a congregational meeting called for the purpose of adopting these Articles and when they shall have been approved by the California Conference of the Methodist Church and the Presbytery of the Redwoods.

Approved by Council
October 9, 2001

Approved by Congregation
November 4, 2001

Dee A. Rued

Clerk of Council