

**BY-LAWS OF THE
NATIONAL FEDERATION OF ASIAN AMERICAN UNITED METHODISTS**
As amended by the General Assembly on Nov. 29, 2007

ARTICLE I – NAME

The name of this organization shall be the **NATIONAL FEDERATION OF ASIAN AMERICAN UNITED METHODISTS, INC.**

ARTICLE II – OBJECTIVES

The objectives of the Federation shall be: (a) to form a NATIONAL FEDERATION OF ASIAN AMERICAN UNITED METHODISTS with the emphasis on the linkages and the empowerment of the Asian American local churches; (b) to articulate the concerns, interest and needs of the Asian American constituencies in all levels of the Church; (c) to advocate for the causes of Asian Americans before appropriate boards and agencies of the Church; (d) to coordinate Asian American programs and activities of annual conference, jurisdictional, ethnic and special interest caucuses in relationship with boards and agencies of the General Church; (e) to promote relevant and meaningful Asian American ministries at all levels of the Church; and (f) to encourage full participation of Asian American United Methodists in all aspects of the life of the Church.

ARTICLE III – MEMBERSHIP

Membership to the Federation shall include: (a) Individual Membership – Asian American individuals who paid the membership dues; (b) Corporate Membership – Asian American Churches which have paid the membership dues; and (c) Associate Membership – non-Asian American individuals who subscribe to the objectives of the Federation and have paid the membership dues.

ARTICLE IV – GENERAL ASSEMBLY

The General Assembly of Asian American United Methodists shall be held once every four years.

Section 1. Membership. Membership to the General Assembly shall include: (a) One lay and one clergy from each Asian American local church; (b) One lay and one clergy from each Jurisdictional Caucus; (c) One lay and one clergy from each Ethnic Caucus; (d) One from the Asian American Women’s Caucus; (e) two Young Adults and two Youth; and (f) Asian American Bishop(s) and Asian American serving in special positions, such as District Superintendency, Conference or General Staff positions.

Section 2. Function. The General Assembly shall elect the Federation Officers, initiate and authorize action and programs, receive and evaluate reports, approve the budget, celebrate Asian American ministries and establish long-range plans and policies.

ARTICLE V- BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Section 1. The ultimate authority of the Federation shall be vested in the Board of Directors, including employment and termination of staff.

Section 2. Membership: The Board shall be composed of up to seventeen (17) members whose terms shall be four (4) years. Federation Officers, by virtue of office, shall be members of the Board of Directors. Each Sub-Ethnic Caucus within NFAAUM shall be represented by one board member. The Cambodian, Chinese, Filipino, Formosan, Hmong, Japanese, Korean, Laotian, South Asian, Vietnamese Caucuses shall select one member each for the Board. Additionally up to two (2) members may be named for inclusivity of women, youth, jurisdiction, laity, and the Asian American Endowment.

Section 3. Limitation. No director shall serve more than two consecutive terms.

Section 4. Vacancies. Vacancies on the Board of Directors shall be filled by the Executive Committee in consultation with the jurisdictional and ethnic caucuses, subject to confirmation by the total Board of Directors at its next meeting, or by mail ballots if the next meeting is further than six months away.

Section 5. Meeting. The Board of Directors shall meet biennially, unless the Executive Committee deems it otherwise. This meeting shall consist of devotions, business and a planned program of papers and discussions.

Section 6. Functions. The Board of Directors shall set the annual dues of its members review the Federation budget; establish standing or special committees as needed.

ARTICLE VI- OFFICERS

Section 1. The five (5) officers of the Federation shall be Chairperson, Vice Chairperson for Advocacy and Program, Vice Chairperson for Membership, Secretary and Treasurer.

Section 2. Officers of the Federation shall be elected for a four-year term by the Board of Directors. The Chairperson shall not be eligible to succeed himself/herself.

Section 3. The Chairperson shall preside at all meetings of the Federation and shall exercise other duties and responsibilities commonly associated with the office.

Section 4. The Vice-Chairpersons shall assist the Chairperson, shall assume the duties of the Chairperson in the event of absence, death, resignation, or incapacity of the latter, and shall assume other duties assigned.

Section 5. The Secretary and Treasurer shall perform all duties that are usually associated with the offices.

Section 6. Vacancies: In the event of a vacancy of any of the Federation Officers, it shall be filled by the Board of Directors.

ARTICLE VII-EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Section 1. The Executive Committee shall have general charge of the affairs of the Federation within the scope of authority designated by the Board of Directors in accordance with the provisions of the By-Laws. The Executive Committee shall serve as a Rules Committee and take upon itself the responsibility of interpreting the provision of the By-Laws.

Section 2. The Executive Committee shall be composed of the officers. The Executive Director shall serve as an ex-officio member without vote on the Executive Committee.

Section 3. The Executive Committee shall meet at least once a year.

Section 4. The Executive Committee shall receive applications and decide for filling the position of Executive Director and such other staff positions as the Board of Directors deems necessary and, in the case of hiring of clergy, the chairperson shall request the resident bishop to appoint the nominee to the position.

Section 5. The Executive Director shall have charge of development of programs and lines of communication and fund raising. She/he shall prepare and have custody of the minutes of the business meetings of the Board of Directors and the Executive Committee, shall manage the finances of the Federation and shall perform such other duties as may be specified by the Board of Directors or the Executive Committee.

ARTICLE VIII – AMENDMENTS

Section 1. An initiative to amend the By-Laws may be made by the Board of Directors or by a petition signed by seven members of the Board of Directors who represent more than three Jurisdictional or Ethnic Caucuses.

Section 2. The By-Laws may be amended by a two-thirds majority vote in a biennial meeting of the Board of Directors or a mail poll of the Board members and upon the ratification by the governing bodies of the Asian American Caucuses in at least four of the five Jurisdictions.