

## Transition from Boards to Ministry and Council ~ Update July 2010

*The Congregational Church of South Dartmouth, UCC*

The Council thanks everyone who contributed to the recent survey concerning the suspension of Articles VIII through XVII of our by-laws to enable a “trial” of an elected council structure. Respondents pointed out a number of benefits of the new structure, as well as some areas of concern. From the survey results, it is apparent that we need to provide clarification and the following, hopefully, illustrates where we are and where we are going:

- The entire set of by-laws was not suspended, only the portion that described the responsibility of the boards.
- The council has used the trial period to see what works and what needs adjusting before we enact a permanent by-law change.
- Deacons and Trustees were split into separate areas because the responsibilities were too great to do them all efficiently.
- The following table summarizes the old and the new for comparison:

Old Officers, Boards and Committees	New Officers, Ministry Teams and Committees	Comments
<b>Moderator</b>	<b>Council Chair</b> Paul Durland	Would like to change name back to Moderator
	<b>Vice-Chair</b> David Fentress	This is a new position for better transition to Chair/ Moderator
<b>Treasurer</b>	<b>Treasurer</b> Phil Guymont	No change
<b>Assistant Treasurer</b>	<b>Assistant Treasurer</b> Gale Litchfield	No change
<b>Clerk</b>	<b>Clerk</b> Cecelia Roberts	No change
<b>Deacons</b>	<b>Worship</b> Linda Gouveia	Worship, sacraments, music, Worship Ministry team members to be referred to as Deacons
	<b>Caregiving</b> Jane Rioux	Lay-shepherds, prayer shawl ministry, rides coordination
	<b>Membership</b> Open	Maintains membership roll, encourages new members
<b>Trustees</b>	<b>Finance</b> Karen McArthur	Stewardship, financial oversight and investments
	<b>Property</b> Brian Fernandes	Buildings and grounds maintenance.
	<b>Children's Circle Nursery</b> Jennifer Lynch	Children's Circle Nursery
	<b>Staff Relations</b> Kathy Pappas	Contracts, personnel policies and issues.
<b>Religious Education</b>	<b>Religious Education</b> Mike Gouveia & Larry Kemper	No change
<b>Ways and Means</b>	<b>Fellowship</b> Debbie Durland	No change except a stronger focus on fellowship
<b>Outreach</b>	<b>Outreach</b> Margaret Forbush	No change except the addition of UCC connections
	<b>Communications</b>	The Council decided that Communications did not rise to Council level and should be a committee
<b>Pastoral Advisory Committee</b>	<b>Pastoral Advisory Committee</b> Jeff Stone	Reinstated by Council
<b>Nominating Committee</b>		Needs to be reinstated in the proposed by-law revision

### Schedule:

September Ministry Meetings – Work on proposed by-law for each ministry.

September/October Council Meetings – Prepare proposed by-law changes.

October Quarterly Meeting – Workshop with congregation for recommendations.

November/December – Commentary period.

January Quarterly Meeting – Vote on proposed by-law.