

**The North Carolina Conference Partners in Caring  
Constitution**

**Article 1** The association shall be called the North Carolina Conference Partners in Caring of the United Methodist Church.

**Article 2** The officers of this association shall be President, Vice-President and Secretary and Treasurer, who shall hold their offices until their successors shall be elected. These persons along with nine trustees, elected on three year staggered terms, constitute the Board of Trustees, for the investment and application of all funds that may come into their hands. The offices of Secretary and Treasurer shall be held by one person.

**Article 3** An annual meeting of the Partners in Caring shall be held during the session of the Annual Conference at such time and place as may be designated by the President, at which meeting the officers of the association shall be elected.

**Article 4** Any member of The North Carolina Annual Conference, probationary, in full connection or any local pastor serving a charge in the Conference, may become a beneficiary member of the Partners in Caring. All members shall pay \$20.00 per call and a \$20.00 initiation fee at the time of joining Partners in Caring. Any member moving to another Conference may remain a member of the Partners in Caring. Any member leaving the Methodist ministry may remain a member of the Partners in Caring as long as his/her ministerial credentials are maintained.

**Article 5** On the death of a beneficiary member, each surviving beneficiary member shall be assessed one call, the same to be paid into the treasury within thirty (30) days from the date of the notice of assessment, except in the case of our foreign missionary members, who shall be allowed ninety (90) days. The death benefit shall be **\$7,000**. In case the deceased member did not direct how this death benefit shall be applied, it shall be paid to the surviving spouse. If there is no surviving spouse or specific direction, it shall be paid to the estate of the deceased.

**Article 6** All assessments must be paid in full each year by the time Annual Conference adjourns. For clarity, a member who at the time of his/her death has paid all calls due except for calls issued during the last forty days of his/her life, is considered paid up. Beneficiaries of members not thus paid up are not eligible to receive benefits from the Partners in Caring. The Board of Trustees may, in unusual circumstances and by majority vote, elect to waive this requirement and instruct the Treasurer to pay the death benefit to the beneficiary. Two emails sent to a member's official NC Conference email address shall constitute sufficient notification for an assessment. If the member does not respond, the secretary/treasurer will make every effort to contact the member or a family member, especially for our retired members. No member shall be dropped without personal contact or written notification.

**Article 7** In the event of the death of the Secretary and Treasurer, the President shall appoint a member to fill his/her place until the ensuing session of the Annual Conference.

**Article 8** Beneficiary membership in ~~the~~ Partners in Caring shall not be forfeited by transfer to any other field of labor in the itinerant ministry or an appointment by the Conference of the United Methodist Church.

**Article 9** The Partners in Caring is to be open, permitting new members to join any time prior to their 60<sup>th</sup> birthday. After age 60, membership is closed, except in extenuating circumstances (as referenced on Page 147 in the 1994 *N. C. Conference Journal*).

**Article 10** This Constitution can be amended at the Annual Session; provided, the amendment proposed shall have been published at least two weeks before the said session **on the Partners in Caring website [nccpartners.org](http://nccpartners.org)**.

#### **By-Laws**

1. The President shall perform the duties usually required of a presiding officer; and in his/her absence, duties shall be performed by the Vice-President.
2. The Secretary shall keep a record of the proceedings of the Board of Trustees, and of the Partners in Caring, and perform the duties usually required of a secretary. He/she shall notify the membership that an assessment is due.
3. Two emails sent to a member's official NC Conference email address shall constitute sufficient notification for any assessment.
4. The Treasurer shall receive and care for all the funds coming to the Partners in Caring and shall disburse and invest the same as directed by the Constitution and By-Laws and Board of Trustees. The expense of electronic financial transactions and bookkeeping, notification on the part of the Secretary-Treasurer, printing, postage, etc. shall be paid out of the amount collected from initiation fees and dues as may be necessary.
5. In view of the labor imposed upon the Secretary-Treasurer, by the duties of that office, he/she shall be exempt from the payment of monetary fees.
6. No Certificate of Membership in the Partners in Caring shall be assigned, transferred, or in any way pledged for debt.

#### **ENROLLMENT FORM**

Upon the death of a member of Partners, a bereavement gift is offered to a beneficiary family and a notice is mailed to all members, both clergy and lay. Member clergy are required to contribute \$20 per call. Membership in PIC is open to all pastors under appointment under the age of 60. The initial enrollment fee is \$20.

*"Please enroll me in Partners in Caring!"*

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Date of Birth: \_\_\_\_\_

Please hand this in to one of our Trustees at the doors as you leave the Executive Session or enroll online at [nccpartners.org](http://nccpartners.org). If you do not have a check made out to "Partners in Caring" today for your \$20 initial enrollment fee, you will be reminded over email later.