A RESOLUTION OF IMPLEMENTATION RECOMMENDING GENDER NEUTRAL
RESTROOMS IN CHURCHES AND AT ANNUAL MEETING SITES

Submitted by the fifteen (or more) delegates to the 149th Annual Meeting of the Connecticut
Conference of the United Church of Christ

WHEREAS, Peter tells the church: “Above all, show sincere love to each other, because love
brings about the forgiveness of sins. Open your homes to each other without
complaining.” (1 Peter 4:8-9 CEB).”

WHEREAS, we recognize the embodiment of all persons in the beloved community along with
their needs to peaceably handle their own bodily functions; and

WHEREAS, the General Synod of the United Church of Christ in 1985 called upon all settings
of the church to adopt policies of non-discrimination regarding sexual orientation and
covenants of openness and affirmation toward lesbian, gay, bisexual persons in all
settings of the church, and in 1989 the Connecticut Conference UCC declared itself open
to and affirming of lesbian, gay and bisexual persons; and

WHEREAS in 2003 the General Synod of the United Church of Christ called upon all settings of
the church to learn about the realities of transgender experience and expression and
welcome transgender people into membership, ministry and full participation, as a further
embodiment of Open and Affirming commitment; and

WHEREAS in 2013 the Connecticut Conference UCC reaffirmed our commitment to welcoming
and including all people in all roles and activities of the Connecticut Conference of the
United Church of Christ, regardless of sexual orientation, gender identity, or gender
expression; and

WHEREAS, the membership of the United Church of Christ, including the delegates to the
Connecticut Conference Annual Meeting reflects the vast diversity of the Conference; and,

WHEREAS, delegates to Annual Meetings are asked to remain in sessions lasting several hours
on multiple days;

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that we the delegates to the 149th Annual Meeting of the
Connecticut Conference of the United Church of Christ recommend that the Annual
Meeting Planning Committee locate our annual meetings only in facilities with gender
neutral restrooms; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that we call upon the churches of the Connecticut Conference
UCC to consider creating a more perfect welcome by designating a restroom in their
church facilities as gender neutral.
Signed:

Rev. Dr. Susan J. Foster, East Woodstock Congregational Church, UCC, Windham Association
Rev. Jonathan Chapman, Westfield Congregational Church, UCC, Windham Association
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Mrs. Valerie Timmins, First Congregational Church of Willimantic, UCC, Windham Association
Rev. Matthew Emery, Storrs Congregational Church, UCC, Windham Association
Rev. Julia Burkey, First Church in Middletown, UCC, Middlesex Association
Rev. Sarah J. Verasco, First Congregational Church of Guilford, UCC, New Haven East Assoc.
Ms. Kathleen Cattanach, First Congregational Church of E Hartford, UCC, Hartford East Assoc.
Rev. Micki Nunn-Miller, UCC in Cornwall, Congregational, Litchfield North Association
Rev. Joseph Blotz, First Church of Christ in Mansfield UCC, Windham Association
Ms. Patricia Sirois, First Congregational Church East Hartford, UCC, Hartford East Association
Mrs. Diane Billings, East Woodstock Congregational Church, UCC, Windham Association
Rev. Dr. Rochelle A. Stackhouse, Church of the Redeemer UCC, New Haven Association
Rev. Dr. Bonnie Scott, The United Church on the Green, UCC, New Haven Association
Rev. Kristen Provost Switzer, Prospect Congregational Church, UCC, Naugatuck Valley Assoc.