

Call to The Prairie Association 2025 Fall Meeting

The Delegates and Authorized Ministers of the Prairie Association are called to the 2025 Prairie Association Fall Meeting.

Theme: “Be the Church: Organizing the Body of Christ for our renewed Governance and Ministry

Location: Zoom (Online Only)

Day, Date, and Time: Sunday, September 28, 2025

2:00 Gathering Time

2:10 Opening Worship

2:30 Plenary

3:30 Closing Prayers

Registration: <https://us02web.zoom.us/meeting/register/IGZ8A2LgQMywaJhMQ4r3Dg#/registration>

Agenda Items:

The Fall Meeting is our business meeting, affirming the

- Illinois Conference UCC and Prairie Association Leadership Reports
- Presentation from Conference Stewardship Team
- Action on Nominating Report, with updates from the Illinois Conference Constitution and Bylaws
- Action on the Resolution:
“To Amend the Organizational Covenant regarding “Quorum”
The Text of the Resolution is attached.
- Action on the Amended Resolution:
“Re-Covenanting as the Prairie Association”
The Text of the Resolution is attached.
- Election of Association Officers and Representatives to Conference Leadership Positions
- Any other business necessary

Resolution to Amend the Organizational Covenant regarding “Quorum”

Approved by the Executive Committee, Prairie Association UCC, 8/21/2025,
and submitted to the Prairie Association UCC Fall Meeting for affirmation.

The Executive Committee of the Prairie Association moves that the Delegates affirm amending the Organizational Covenant, Article 7.4 from:

A quorum for meetings of the Association (except for Ecclesiastical Councils) will consist of **fifty** voting delegates representing **one third** of the churches of the Association.

to the following:

A quorum for meetings of the Association (except for Ecclesiastical Councils) will consist of voting delegates representing **one quarter** of the churches of the Association.

Amended Resolution: “Re-Covenanting as the Prairie Association”

Original version Approved by the Executive Committee, Prairie Association UCC, 8/28/2024,
and submitted to the Prairie Association UCC Fall Meeting for affirmation.

Whereas:

The Organizational Covenant of the Prairie Association, Illinois Conference UCC, was adopted at the establishment of the Association in 1993.

and Whereas:

The Covenant was last revised in 2017 to include the current structure of the ministry of the Illinois Conference, including staffing relationships and Committee nomenclature.

and Whereas :

This Covenant revision could not anticipate the impact of the COVID-19 Global Pandemic on our society at large, or its the transition of congregations and clergy in relationship to participation in the Association.

and Whereas:

The Covenant assumes an ability to enlist members from our local churches and clergy to the roles and offices that is not respective of the trends in the organization of governance and ministry in “such a time as this...”

Therefore, Be it Resolved:

That the Prairie Association UCC commits to a process of Re-Covenanting for the period of 2024-2026.

also, Be it Resolved:

That the Association suspends the bylaws pertaining to the Executive Council, the Officers, and any portion related to their terms of service.

Specifically:

Article III.1 – Prairie Association Executive Council

Article III. 3 – Nominating Committee (as it relates to the these roles exclusively)

Article V. 1 – Elections, Terms of Office and Appointments (as it relates to the these roles exclusively)

also, Be it Resolved:

That a colloquium of Authorized Clergy and the Executive Officer of each Local Congregation (Moderator, President, etc) within the Association be called to gather no later than December 2025

Its purpose will be the review and amendment to the Organizational Covenant of the Association to meet the current needs of the Association’s governance and ministry.

The colloquium shall report the outcome of their work to the Association at the Spring Meeting 2026.

This colloquium will assume any function of the suspended portions of the bylaws as is required in covenant with the Illinois Conference UCC and National Setting of the United Church of Christ.