

ARTICLES OF ASSOCIATION
(as amended 1912)

For the purpose of forming a religious corporation with the powers conferred by the constitution of the State of Missouri, and under and pursuant to the laws of the State of Missouri, the undersigned members of the congregation worshipping at the Church known as Grace Church of Kirkwood, St. Louis County, Missouri hereby adopt the following Articles of Association.

ARTICLE I. The name of the corporation shall be The Rector, Church Wardens and Vestrymen of Grace Church of Kirkwood.

ARTICLE II. This parish shall, and hereby does acknowledge its allegiance in ecclesiastical affairs to the One Holy Catholic and Apostolic Church of Christ, and acknowledges itself to be a member of and to belong to the Protestant Episcopal Church, in the United States of America and through that Church, to the Diocese thereof in Missouri, and as such accedes to, recognizes and accepts the Canons, Doctrines, Discipline and Form of Worship of that Church, and acknowledges its authority accordingly.

ARTICLE III. Said corporation shall have the power of acquiring, holding, using and disposing of so much land as may be required for Church Edifice, Chapels, Rectory, Parish House, School Buildings and Cemetery, and of managing the same and of contracting in relation thereto, and with and under the authority of the Protestant Episcopal Church, and may have a common seal and change the same at pleasure.

This Association shall be forever incorporated, and all property belonging to it or which shall hereafter be acquired by it, or which shall come under its control, is and forever shall be held by it under the ecclesiastical authority of the Bishop of said Church, in the Diocese of Missouri and his successors in office, of that Diocese of said Church in the State of Missouri, in which it may be, and shall be held under and subject to the use only of such persons as are or may hereafter become associated together in the Parish, under the Constitution and Canons aforesaid, and shall conduct religious worship according to the Ritual and Form of Worship and under the Discipline of said Church.

No person, who shall disclaim or refuse conformity to the above mentioned authority, shall be or become, or continue to be a member of this Parish, or vote for, or be appointed or elected a Rector, Minister, Warden, Vestryman, or any other Officer, or hold or exercise any office or function whatsoever in connection with this Parish, or its property or have any right, interest in, or control thereover.

) The Parish may accept such devises, legacies, and gifts as may lawfully fall to it, and shall have power to impose such dues and collect and raise such revenues as may be necessary to keep up and maintain its property, and to purchase, acquire and erect necessary buildings and improvements thereon, carry on services therein and carry out any charitable and benevolent work, in which it may engage, but it shall not engage in any business for pecuniary profit.

ARTICLE IV. The powers and duties of said corporation shall be vested in and exercised, and all its property controlled by a Vestry, the members of which shall be elected on such day in each year as is or shall be prescribed by Canon, and they shall hold office until their successors shall be duly elected.

The number of Vestrymen shall accord with the Canonical provisions of the Diocese in which this Parish is or may be located. They shall be members of the Parish or Association in good standing, and shall have been electors in this Parish for at least six months next prior to their election.

Any vacancy happening in the Vestry shall be filled by the remaining Vestrymen. Voting for Vestrymen shall be by ballot. A majority of the qualified votes cast in a given ballot at the Parish meeting shall be necessary to elect Vestrymen, and in case of a tie or a failure to elect, further ballots shall be taken forthwith until an election is had.

) All cases of challenge of the qualifications of an elector or of a disputed election, (if not settled at the Parish meeting) shall be referred to the Bishop of the Diocese, whose decision shall be final; the vote of the challenged party or parties, and the returns of the election being in the meantime taken and transmitted, with the challenge or matter in dispute, to the Bishop whose decision thereon shall be final and shall be entered on the Parish records.

The vestry shall have power to perform all the functions usually appertaining to that body. They shall choose one of their own number to be Church Warden and to be known as Junior Warden, and the Rector shall annually appoint from the said Vestry, another Church Warden to be known as the Senior Warden. Both of the Wardens shall be communicants of the Church. The Vestry shall also elect a Secretary and Treasurer.

In case of a vacancy in the office of Rector, or of the suspension of the Rector, or of his inability to act for any cause, the Senior Warden shall be the presiding officer of the Vestry and of the Parish.

In case of a failure on the part of the Rector to appoint a Senior Warden, or in case of the absence or inability or failure of the Senior Warden to act, then the Junior Warden shall be the presiding officer of the Vestry and of the Parish. If there be no Wardens present, then the Vestry or Parish shall elect its own presiding officer.

The Vestry shall have such powers and perform such duties as are provided by the Constitution and Canons of the Diocese, and be subject to the provisions thereof in the control and management of all property of the Parish and may adopt such by-laws for the government and support of this Association or Parish and the management and disposal of its property as they shall deem fit, and as are in harmony with these Articles.

The Rector or other presiding officer shall have no vote in Vestry or Parish meetings, except in case of a tie, when he shall have power to cast the deciding vote.

The Vestry shall have power to mortgage or otherwise encumber the property of the Parish, or any part of it, for Parish purposes, and to convey or lease the same; but no mortgage or conveyance of any lands or tenements belonging to said Parish shall be made without a vote of the Vestry, two-thirds thereof being present and concurring; nor shall such conveyance or encumbrance be made, unless in subjection to the Canons of the General Convention of the Protestant Episcopal Church in the United States of America.

ARTICLE V. The present Vestry of Grace Church of Kirkwood to wit, George H. Gill, William T. Essex, Loraine F. Jones, Aleck C. Good, William S. Bodley, Goerge W. Tracy, Edward W. Lycett, Henry A. Hyatt, D. M. Grissom, Thomas L. Mills and Henry W. Hough shall hold their offices until Easter Monday A.D. 1884 and until their successors are duly elected and qualified.

ARTICLE VI. Electors shall possess the qualifications prescribed by the Constitution and Canons of this Diocese, and such other qualifications as are or may be prescribed in these Articles or in the by-laws of this Association.

ARTICLE VII. The Vestry shall have power to adopt such by-laws as they may deem expedient, and alter the same, provided however, that such by-laws shall not be inconsistent with the Constitution and Canons of the Church in this Diocese and with these Articles, and the same shall not be altered within three months next preceding the meeting at which they are to be applicable.

ARTICLE VIII. The Rector of this Parish shall be elected by a majority of the Vestry present at a meeting duly convened for the purpose, or at a regular meeting of the Vestry; provided, that at least two-thirds of the members are present. He shall be ex-officio, and while he fills the office and is in discharge of the duties of the Rector, the presiding officer of the Parish and of the Vestry.

No person shall be Rector or Minister of this Parish or allowed to execute any of the functions of the same, unless he shall have had Episcopal ordination, and is in full and good standing with the Protestant Episcopal Church in the United States of America, and recognized as a Minister in good standing in said Church, by the Bishop of this Diocese or, if there be no Bishop, by the Standing Committee.

ARTICLE IX. The first meeting of said corporation may be called by the Rector reading a notice thereof during divine service, held upon any Sunday at their accustomed place of worship, said notice specifying that said meeting will be held the succeeding Monday evening.