Dear New Hampshire Conference Members,

You are officially invited to participate in the 213rd Annual Meeting of the New Hampshire Conference, to be held on Saturday, October 25, 2014 at the Grappone Conference Center, 70 Constitution Avenue, Concord, NH. Registration will begin at 8.00am, and our time together will begin promptly at 9.00am.

Annual Meeting 2014 will explore what it means to be part of the New Hampshire Conference, the New England Region, and the whole United Church of Christ. Join us in “Proclaiming our Unity”, and exploring all the many blessings we enjoy, and the mission we share with our wider church partners. Building upon the founding principle of the United Church of Christ, found in John 17:21 – “That they may all be one…”, this year’s Annual Meeting will feature the Rev. Geoffrey Black, the General Minister & President of the United Church of Christ and Conference Ministers from the other New England Conferences. Find out what is going on at the national setting, what our New England partners in ministry are doing and discovering as they lead through a time of enormous change, and what it means to be truly part of something much larger than ourselves.

WORSHIP. Meaningful worship lies at the heart of our gathering. The meeting will open with a worship service at 9.00 a.m. that will invigorate and unite us in word, song and celebration – and will engage each of us as vital pieces of the puzzle that is our collective ministry and mission.

OFFERING. An offering will be received during morning worship for the support of the covenant we share in the United Church of Christ. We encourage churches to send a special offering for Our Churches Wider Mission Basic Support with your delegates.

YOUTH DELEGATES. We strongly encourage each church to include a Youth Delegate (under 25) as a member of your delegation. Youth Delegates may register at a reduced rate (see below). The Annual Meeting is an
effective setting in which our youth may learn about the wider church, meet church leaders, and find a common sense of purpose and proclaim their own piece of the unity we share as part of our faith.

**DELEGATES.** The Conference Bylaws define the voting membership as "those delegates duly appointed by the churches, the Conference officers, members of the Board of Directors, and each ordained, licensed, or commissioned minister with standing in a New Hampshire Association." (Bylaws, Article VII, Section 2). Each church shall be entitled to four (4) lay delegates, one (1) of whom shall be under twenty-five (25) years of age at the date of election. Churches with more than one hundred (100) members shall be entitled to one (1) additional delegate for each one hundred (100) additional members or major fraction thereof."

**VISITORS.** Visitors are welcomed and strongly encouraged as a means of deepening the covenant that our congregations share in the NH Conference and the United Church of Christ.

**REGISTRATION.** Please visit [www.nhcucc.org](http://www.nhcucc.org) where you will find up-to-date Annual Meeting Resource Materials and a link to begin the registration process – which officially opens on **Monday, August 25th**. For registrations processed **on or before Wednesday, October 22nd at midnight** when online registration officially closes, the Youth Delegate Rate will be $50.00/person and the Delegates & Visitors rate will be $75.00/person. Major credit cards and personal checks will be accepted for online registration.

Registrations processed **after** online registration closes will be considered at the “walk-in” rates of $65.00 per youth delegate, and $90.00 for all others – and processed on the day of the event. For walk-in registrations, cash or check will be accepted. If you do not have access to the Internet, you may register by calling Donna Follansbee at 888-642-8229, ext. 1100 (Monday – Friday / 10am-3pm / August 25-October 22).

**ACCOMMODATIONS.** A discounted block of rooms has been reserved at the Courtyard by the Marriott, a hotel directly adjacent to the Grappone Conference Center. These rooms are offered at the rate of $124.00 per night plus taxes, and must be reserved on or before October 3rd to receive the discounted rate. To reserve a room at the hotel please contact the Courtyard by the Marriott at (603) 225-0303, and mention that you are with the United Church of Christ to receive this special rate.

**ACCESSIBILITY.** The Grappone Conference Center is an accessible facility with parking near the main entrance. CART Services of NH will be participating in this year’s meeting, for the benefit of our hearing impaired delegates.

Please feel free to contact the Conference Office with any questions regarding the Annual Meeting. We look forward to seeing you on October 25th!

*May God’s Peace be with you,*

**Your 2014 Annual Meeting Planning Committee.**