

## **PUBLIC STATEMENTS BY MEMBERS, TASK FORCES & COMMITTEES**

(Replaces the Policy on “SPEAKING OUT and USING BANNERS in the Name of RRUC”)

At its February 21, 2017 Board Meeting, the Board rescinded RRUUC’s Policy on “SPEAKING OUT and USING BANNERS in the Name of RRUC” as follows:

A MOTION was made, seconded and passed to rescind RRUUC’s Policy on Speaking Out and Using Banners in the Name of RRUC [sic] because it places unnecessary burdens on the ability of members and groups to speak out on matters of public concern. The original policy was created during a time when there was concern over taking a public stance on desegregation in the 1960s. The Bylaws already cover how the congregation as a whole can take a public stance.

Here is a history of the adoption and amendment of that policy:

*Rescinded, 2/21/2017*

*Revision, 9/13/2006, Added Banner to title. Changed quorum in A(3) to match Bylaw 2.10.*

*Revision, May 3, 2000 “Speaking Out in the Name of the Church and Related Matters”*

*Revision, May 6, 1998 – added sections B & C*

*Revision, December 8, 1986 “Procedure for Speaking or Taking Action in the Name of the Church”*

*Original, Adopted April 24, 1966 under the title “Procedure for Social Action Taken in the Name of RRUC”*

At the same Board Meeting on February 21, 2017, the Board reaffirmed the minister’s freedom of the pulpit and any RRUUC member, committee, or task force to work and speak on its own behalf while identifying their affiliation with RRUUC:

A MOTION was made, seconded and passed to affirm freedom of the pulpit and the ability of any RRUUC member, committee or task force to work and speak on its own behalf. In each case, the Minister, committee, group or member may identify their affiliation with RRUUC.