



*The First Church of Christ in Mansfield  
(Congregational), UCC  
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**Conflict of Interest, Governing Board  
Adopted April 2019**

**Definitions:**

For purposes of this policy only, the term “the business of the Church” means: 1) any transaction, purchase, contract, or negotiation for goods and/or services that is, or is planned to be entered into by the Church; and, 2) any expenditure of funds by the Church in support of another organization or entity that the Governing Board is authorized to make and which has not been previously approved by the Congregation at a Congregational meeting.

The term “conflict of interest” means: the existence of any personal, family, business or employment relationship, commitment, investment, obligation, or involvement, financial or otherwise, direct or indirect, which will be affected by a decision or action taken by the Governing Board, or which may influence a Governing Board Member’s judgment in considering and voting on matters related to the business of the Church.

**Policy:**

1. Members of the Governing Board must recuse themselves from board discussions and from voting on matters related to the business of the Church that present a conflict of interest for them.
2. If a Member of the Governing Board perceives a possible conflict of interest, or discovers the existence of such a conflict during the course of Board deliberations, he or she shall promptly notify the other members. If there is a question regarding whether a conflict of interest exists, the Governing Board shall make a determination pursuant to procedures outlined for voting in the By-Laws. The affected Governing Board member shall not vote on the question.

Notwithstanding the provisions of this policy, neither a Governing Board member, nor a member of his or her immediate family is prohibited from entering into business transactions with the Church, provided that that member identifies his/her or the immediate family member’s intention to do so, recuses him/herself from discussions of the matter and is not present during votes related to that transaction.