

HIGHLIGHTS OF CONSTITUTIONAL CHANGES OCTOBER 2024

R1 Changes (Oct 3, 2024)

Wish to thank Bob Dexter for his very thorough review of the Proposed Constitution. The latest revision, which is what we will be voting on this Sunday, Oct 6, incorporates the following changes as well the previous highlighted changes (enclosed below).

CODIFICATION EXPLANATION b. *Added clarification that Bylaws in this Constitution appear in Italics.*

C9.12.01 Deleted the term “active confirmed” members, who are not defined elsewhere. b

10.01.01.a. Rewritten to include 10.01.02a, election of the Council, and the Nominating Committee 10.01.02b

C10.08. Allows remote participation for the congregation and 12.13 for the Council, both adopted directly from the Model Constitution. We will have a brief discussion of the challenges involved in the voting process.

C11.01.01.a Deleted the term Executive Director from the first sentence because it occurs nowhere else in the constitution.

C12.01. Included the pastor in this paragraph as ex officio with voice but no vote, like our current constitution.

C12.02. Removed the requirement for written ballot. Also removed the last sentence, it was in conflict with .02.01.b.

Added a new paragraph

12.14 All Congregational Council meetings shall be open to all members of this congregation, except when the Council is in executive session. Non-council member attendees may be granted voice at the meeting, but shall have no vote.

13.03 Increased the size of the Call Committee (from 6 to 6 to 8) to include non-voting members serving as alternates similar to a jury

b. Added clarification that By Laws in this Constitution appear in Italics.

Background

Most of the constitution is required to be copied verbatim from the ELCA Model Constitution, as discussed in the introduction and indicated by an asterisk * preceding the paragraph. Note the numbering system for By Laws which are incorporated within the Constitution and are highlighted in *Italics*.

Change Highlights

10.01.01.a & .02.a Move Annual Meeting for budget approval and electing new council members to May. Shifting the budget year from a calendar year to a July to June fiscal year, should give us a better idea of our financial standing as we will have already received the significant and generous, but highly variable, year-end giving. (Currently April for electing new Council members, and December for budget approval).

10.01.02.a Amend size of Council, it is currently 10-13, reduced to 7-10

10.04 Fifteen percent of the voting members shall constitute a quorum, previously “those present”

10.08 This congregation may hold meetings by remote communication

12.13 Electronic Council meetings allowed

13.03 Call Committee now 6 members, previously up to 10 members, but only 8 could vote

13.04.01 Amend named permanent Standing committees. Retained *Finance, Property and Personnel* as standing committees. Others (listed below) will not be standing committees, but will be revived as needed on an ad hoc short term basis, with activities to be evaluated annually (these are called continuing resolutions).

Worship, Music and the Arts Parish Education

Outreach and Global Ministries Stewardship

Social Concerns

Children, Youth and Family Fellowship

Deleted reference to the Audit Committee in 11.01.01, 12.05.01, and 13.03 (been inactive)