

CONSTITUTIONAL CHANGES

As mentioned at our last two congregational meetings, Faith is updating our constitution as it has been over a decade since we last adopted a revision. We also wish to change our fiscal year and conduct our Council elections with our budget meeting.

Process and Timeline

We will meet September 15th to discuss the proposed changes and answer questions. **We will hold congregational meetings on October 6th to approve the draft constitution and at our Annual Budget Meeting on December 8th to vote again to adopt (unchanged) what we approved in October.**

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)