

<p align="center">Messiah Lutheran Church Constitution</p> <p>Approved February 26, 2017 - Congregation</p>	<p align="center"><i>Messiah Lutheran Church Constitution</i></p> <p><i>Amendments proposed – June 2021</i></p>	<p align="center">Rationale and Background for proposed amendments</p>
<p>PREAMBLE In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.</p> <p>Recognizing that the Church of Jesus Christ and its unity is found in "the assembly of believers among whom the Gospel is preached in its purity and the Holy Sacraments are administered according to the Gospel," and desiring to unite as a congregation in the common confession, defense and proclamation of our faith in Jesus Christ our Saviour, we the members of the Church of Christ adopt this constitution and pledge ourselves to be governed by its provisions.</p>	<p>PREAMBLE In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.</p> <p>Recognizing that the Church of Jesus Christ and its unity is found in "the assembly of believers among whom the Gospel is preached in its purity and the Holy Sacraments are administered according to the Gospel," and desiring to unite as a congregation in the common confession, defense and proclamation of our faith in Jesus Christ our Saviour, we the members of the Church of Christ adopt this constitution and bylaws and pledge ourselves to be governed by their provisions.</p>	
<p>ARTICLE I Name and Incorporation Section 1. The name of this congregation shall be Messiah Lutheran Church.</p> <p>Section 2. This congregation shall be incorporated under the laws of the Province of Saskatchewan.</p> <p>Section 3. This organization shall be carried out without purpose or gain for its members, and any profit and other gains to the organization shall be used in promoting its objectives.</p>	<p>ARTICLE I Name Section 1: The name of this congregation shall be Messiah Lutheran Church located in Prince Albert, Saskatchewan.</p> <p>Section 2: Name of incorporating Act: Non-Profit Corporations Act; Saskatchewan Date of incorporation: May 14, 1929 Incorporation number: 200315</p>	<p>Section 1 - added city and province</p> <p>Section 2 - changed from general to specific details</p> <p>Section 3 – moved to Article 3; Section 1</p>

<p>ARTICLE II Confession of Faith</p> <p>Section 1. This congregation confesses the Triune God—Father, Son and Holy Spirit—as the one true God. It proclaims the Father as Creator and Preserver, His Son Jesus Christ as Redeemer and Lord, and the Holy Spirit as Regenerator and Sanctifier.</p> <p>Section 2. This congregation confesses that the Gospel is the revelation of God's saving will and grace in Jesus Christ, which He imparts through Word and Sacrament. Through these means of grace, the Holy Spirit creates believers and unites them with their Lord and with one another in the fellowship of the Holy Christian Church.</p> <p>Section 3. This congregation confesses the Scriptures of the Old and New Testaments as the inspired Word of God, through which God still speaks, and as the only source of the Church's doctrine and the authoritative standard for the faith and life of the Church.</p> <p>Section 4. This congregation subscribes the documents of the Book of Concord of 1580 as witnesses to the way in which the Holy Scriptures have been correctly understood and explained and confessed for the sake of the Gospel, namely:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. The Apostles', the Nicene, and the Athanasian Creeds as the chief confessions of the Christian faith; b. The Unaltered Augsburg Confession as its basic formulation of Christian doctrine; c. Luther's Small Catechism as a clear summary of Christian doctrine; and d. The Apology of the Augsburg Confession, Luther's Large Catechism, the Smalcald Articles with the 	<p>ARTICLE II Confession of Faith</p> <p>The Confession of Faith shall be that of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in Canada (ELCIC) as follows:</p> <p>Section 1. This congregation confesses the triune God—Father, Son and Holy Spirit—as the one true God. It proclaims the Father as Creator and Preserver; his Son, Jesus Christ, as Redeemer and Lord; and the Holy Spirit as Regenerator and Sanctifier.</p> <p>Section 2. This congregation confesses that the gospel is the revelation of God's saving will and grace in Jesus Christ, which he imparts through Word and Sacrament. Through these means of grace, the Holy Spirit creates believers and unites them with their Lord and with one another in the fellowship of the Holy Christian Church.</p> <p>Section 3. This congregation confesses the Scriptures of the Old and New Testaments as the inspired Word of God, through which God still speaks, and as the only source of the church's doctrine and the authoritative standard for the faith and life of the church.</p> <p>Section 4. This congregation subscribes to the documents of the <i>Book of Concord of 1580</i> as witnesses to the way in which the Holy Scriptures have been correctly understood, explained and confessed for the sake of the gospel, namely:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. The Apostles', the Nicene, and the Athanasian Creeds as the chief confessions of the Christian faith; b. The unaltered <i>Augsburg Confession</i> as its basic formulation of Christian doctrine; c. <i>Luther's Small Catechism</i> as a clear summary of 	<p>Moved from Article XI; Section 3</p> <p>Section 1 – no change</p> <p>Section 2 – no change</p> <p>Section 3 – no change</p> <p>Section 4 – no change</p>
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<p>Treatise, and the Formula of Concord as further witnesses to the Unaltered Augsburg Confession.</p>	<p>Christian doctrine; and d. <i>The Apology of the Augsburg Confession, Luther's Large Catechism, the Smalcald Articles with the Treatise, and the Formula of Concord</i> as further witnesses to the unaltered <i>Augsburg Confession</i>.</p>	
<p>ARTICLE III Nature and Mission</p> <p>This congregation is a worshipping, learning, witnessing and serving community of baptized persons among whom the Word is proclaimed and the Sacraments are administered according to the Gospel, and whose corporate existence is recognized by the Evangelical Lutheran Church in Canada (ELCIC). It shall provide support to enable the fulfillment of the mission and ministry of this church.</p> <p>a. Worship. This congregation, remembering God's mighty acts in the past, celebrating His abiding presence, and moving toward His promised fulfillment, will listen to the Word of God in Scripture and preaching, receive the Sacraments, and respond with confession, prayer, praise, thanksgiving, and with tithes and offerings. In order to assist members to acknowledge God's rule over their lives, their own unity as Christ's body on earth, and to express their relationship with God in public and in private, the congregation shall gather for worship regularly and, in accordance with the traditions of the Lutheran Church, recruit, equip and support members for leadership in worship, use appropriate worship materials, and make certain that worship has a place in other functions of the congregation.</p>	<p>ARTICLE III Purpose and Objectives Section 1. This organization shall be carried out without purpose of gain for its members, and any profit and other gains to the organization shall be used in promoting its objectives.</p> <p>Section 2. This congregation is a worshipping, learning, witnessing and serving community of baptized persons among whom the Word is proclaimed and the Sacraments are administered according to the Gospel, and whose existence is recognized by the ELCIC. It shall provide support to enable the fulfillment of the mission and ministry of the ELCIC.</p> <p>a. Worship. This congregation, remembering God's mighty acts in the past, celebrating God's abiding presence, and moving toward God's promised fulfillment, will listen to the Word of God in Scripture and preaching, receive the Sacraments, and respond with confession, prayer, praise, thanksgiving, and with tithes and offerings. In order to assist members to acknowledge God's rule over their lives, their own unity as Christ's body on earth, and to express their relationship with God in public and in private, the congregation shall gather for worship regularly and, in accordance with the traditions of the Lutheran Church, recruit, equip and support members for leadership in worship, use appropriate worship materials, and make certain that worship has a place in other functions of the congregation.</p>	<p>New Section 1 –moved from Article I; Section 3</p> <p>New Section 2 – previous intro paragraph - but no change</p> <p>a. Worship – no change</p>

<p>b. Learning. The congregation shall develop an educational program designed to assist persons to grow in grace and faith and in the knowledge of the Scriptures and the Lutheran Confessions for service and witness in the world. To this end it shall provide learning opportunities with appropriate curriculum, shall recruit, equip, approve and support teachers, and shall ensure that adequate study undergirds all functions of the congregation.</p> <p>c. Witnessing. This congregation, relying on the Holy Spirit, shall proclaim the Gospel by word and deed and thereby invite all people to repent and believe. The congregation shall recruit, motivate, equip and support its members to witness to their faith at every opportunity in daily life so that the Lord is glorified, the fellowship is strengthened, the lapsed are restored and new members are added to the congregation. It shall provide for the communication of the Gospel through fellowship in the wider Christian community. It shall assure that all congregational functions witness to the faith of the church.</p> <p>d. Service. This congregation shall live by faith active in love. It shall motivate, equip and support its members to minister in daily life; to participate as members of a caring community; to serve as Christians in all the institutions and structures of the society of which they are a part; and individually and corporately to promote justice and reconciliation, meet human needs and alleviate suffering. In these efforts the congregation shall cooperate with the synod and the ELCIC, other Christian churches and other groups in society. It shall make certain that all its functions strengthen the motivation and ability for service.</p>	<p>b. Learning. This congregation shall develop an educational program designed to assist persons to grow in grace and faith and in the knowledge of the Scriptures and the Lutheran Confessions for service and witness in the world. To this end, it shall provide learning opportunities with appropriate curriculum, shall recruit, equip and support educational leaders, and shall ensure that adequate study undergirds all functions of the congregation.</p> <p>c. Witnessing. This congregation, relying on the Holy Spirit, shall proclaim the Gospel by word and deed and thereby invite all people to repent and believe. This congregation shall recruit, motivate, equip and support its members to witness to their faith at every opportunity in daily life so that the Lord is glorified, the fellowship is strengthened, the lapsed are restored and new members are added to the congregation. It shall provide for the communication of the Gospel through partnership with the wider Christian community. It shall assure that all congregational functions witness to the faith of the church.</p> <p>d. Service. This congregation shall live by faith active in love. It shall motivate, equip and support its members to: minister in daily life; participate as members of a caring community; serve as Christians in all the institutions and structures of the society of which they are a part; and promote justice and reconciliation, meet human needs and alleviate suffering, both individually and corporately. In these efforts, this congregation shall cooperate with the synod and the ELCIC, other Christian churches, faith communities and groups in society. It shall make certain that all its functions strengthen the motivation and ability for service.</p>	<p>b. Learning – no change</p> <p>c. Witnessing – no change</p> <p>d. Service –</p> <p>Added: ... both individually and corporately.</p> <p>Added: faith communities</p>
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<p>e. Support. This congregation in faithfulness to God shall provide leadership, organizational structures, facilities and funds to enable fulfillment of its functions. The congregation shall strive to maintain effective stewardship practices, evaluate regularly the total life and ministry of the congregation, and recruit, equip and support members of the congregation to provide for these activities.</p>	<p>e. Support. This congregation, in faithfulness to God, shall provide leadership, organizational structures, facilities and funds to enable fulfillment of its functions. This congregation shall strive to maintain effective stewardship practices, evaluate regularly the total life and ministry of this congregation, and recruit, equip and support members of this congregation to provide for these activities.</p>	<p>e. Support – no change</p> <p>End of the Constitution; previous Articles IV and beyond have all been moved into Bylaws.</p>
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Current Constitution	Proposed Bylaws to replace Constitution	
<p>ARTICLE IV Membership Section 1. The membership of this congregation consists of those baptized persons who: a. Have been baptized in this congregation, or b. Having been previously baptized in the name of the Triune God, have been received by: i. Transfer from another Lutheran congregation, or another congregation of a church in full communion with the ELCIC, ii. Confirmation, or iii. Affirmation of faith.</p> <p>Section 2. Members of this congregation may also be classified as confirmed and voting: a. Confirmed members are baptized members who have been:</p>	<p>PART I Membership Section 1. United in one Lord, one faith and one baptism, the members of the congregation are to be constant in worship and in the study of the Holy Scriptures, regularly nourishing their life in Christ in the partaking of the Sacrament of Holy Communion, presenting their children for Holy Baptism and providing for their Christian instruction. The members are called by the Spirit to lead godly lives, to promote the unity and welfare of this congregation in the bond of peace, to proclaim the Gospel and to renounce the evil one. The commitment of each baptized member to this call is to be expressed through the ELCIC, its synods and this congregation by a life of repentance, faith, prayer and the sharing of resources.</p> <p>Section 2. The membership of this congregation consists of those persons who: a. have been baptized in this congregation, b. having been previously baptized in the name of the</p>	<p>Section 1 – no change; moved from previous Section 3</p> <p>Section 2 – combines previous Sections 1 and 2</p>

<p>i. Confirmed in this congregation, or ii. Received by adult baptism, or iii. Received by transfer as confirmed members from another Lutheran congregation, or another congregation of a church in full communion with the ELCIC, or iv. Received by affirmation of faith as baptized adults.</p> <p>b. Voting members are those confirmed or otherwise designated members who are members in good standing (section 5) and have attained the age of 18 years.</p> <p>Section 3. United in one Lord, one faith and one Baptism, the members of this congregation are to be constant in worship and in the study of the Holy Scriptures, regularly nourishing their life in Christ in the partaking of the Sacrament of Holy Communion, presenting their children for Holy Baptism and providing for their Christian instruction.</p> <p>The members are called by the Spirit to lead godly lives, to promote the unity and welfare of the congregation in the bond of peace, to proclaim the Gospel and to renounce the evil one. The commitment of each baptized member to this call is to be expressed through the ELCIC, its synods and this congregation by a life of repentance, faith, prayer and the sharing of resources.</p> <p>Section 4. Membership in this congregation shall be terminated by any of the following: a. Death, b. Resignation, c. Transfer or release, d. Exclusion,</p>	<p>Triune God, have been received by:</p> <p>i. transfer from another Lutheran congregation, or another congregation of a church in full communion with the ELCIC, ii. confirmation, or iii. affirmation of faith.</p> <p>Section 3. A list of members shall be maintained on the membership roster.</p> <p>Section 4. Voting members, as defined in PART VI, Section 1, who have not, for a period of one (1) year, partaken of the Sacrament of Holy Communion, supported and participated in the life and worship of the congregation are placed on a responsibility list. The member will, when practicable, be contacted by</p>	<p>Previous Section 3 moved to new Section 1</p> <p>Section 3 – new</p> <p>New Section 4 – previous Section 5; moved reference to second year of inactivity to new Section 5 Previous Section 4 moved to Section 7</p>
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<p>e. Removal from membership roster because of inactivity.</p> <p>Section 5. A confirmed member who does not, for a period of one year, partake of the Sacrament of Holy Communion, support the church with offerings and participate in the life and worship of the congregation shall be visited by the pastor and the congregation's officers and be encouraged by them to active membership. If, during the second year, the confirmed member does not actively participate, the member's name may be removed from the membership roster of the congregation by action of the congregational council, but it shall be retained on a responsibility list as one who is in special need of the congregation's prayer and concern. Anyone so removed shall be given written notice of the council's action.</p> <p>Section 6. A member who advocates doctrines which are contrary to the Holy Scriptures and the Confessions of the Church or who is guilty of conduct that is grossly unbecoming a member of the body of Christ shall be subject to discipline.</p> <p>Section 7. Discipline in the congregation shall be exercised in accordance with Matthew 18:15–18.</p> <p>Section 8. The Congregational Council shall administer discipline. A person who is requested to appear before the Congregational Council shall be advised in writing no less than ten days prior to the</p>	<p>the rostered minister and/or a Congregational Council member who will encourage the member to active membership.</p> <p>Section 5. Prior to each annual meeting of the congregation, the Congregational Council shall review the membership roster to ensure that:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> changes have been recorded; voting members who have not, for a period of one (1) year, partaken of the Sacrament of Holy Communion, supported and participated in the life and worship of the congregation are placed on the responsibility list; and those members on the responsibility list who have not, for a further period of one (1) year, returned to active participation shall be removed from the membership roster. Anyone so removed shall be given written notice of the council's action. <p>Section 6. In special circumstances, the Congregational Council may, in its sole discretion, leave a member on the membership roster.</p> <p>Section 7. Membership in the congregation shall be terminated by any of the following:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> death; resignation; transfer or release; exclusion as a result of discipline; or removal from membership roster (Section 5). <p>PART II Reconciliation and Discipline of a Member Section 1. In situations when a member:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> causes strife or division within the congregation; advocates doctrines which are contrary to the Holy Scriptures and the Confessions of the 	<p>Section 5 – new</p> <p>Section 6 - new</p> <p>Section 7 – previous Section 4; adds ‘as a result of discipline’ to point d, and replaces ‘because of inactivity’ with reference to Section 5 in point e.</p> <p>Section 1 – adds point a, and includes provision for the ‘goal of reconciliation’ prior to discipline</p>
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<p>hearing. The written notice shall include the time and place of the hearing and shall specify the exact reason for the hearing. If a person fails to appear at the time and place without valid excuse, the council may proceed with the hearing and may reach its conclusion in the member's absence. Should the person be found guilty by a two-thirds vote of the members of the council, the council shall impose one of the following:</p> <p>a. Censure before the Congregational Council or the congregation, b. Suspension from membership until evidence is given of sufficient repentance and amendment, c. Exclusion from membership and denial of the Sacraments.</p> <p>In the event of the imposition of (b) or (c) above, the action of the council shall be in writing.</p> <p>Section 9. There shall be the right of appeal to the congregation. Right of further appeal from a decision of the congregation shall be as provided in the constitution and bylaws of the synod.</p>	<p>Church; or</p> <p>c. has engaged in conduct that is unbecoming a member of the body of Christ; the goal of the congregation shall be reconciliation using restorative practices and/or mediation in accordance with Matthew 18:15-18.</p> <p>Section 2. When, in the opinion of the Congregational Council, reconciliation cannot be achieved, the Congregational Council shall administer discipline. A person who is requested to appear before a properly called meeting of the Congregational Council shall be advised in writing no less than ten (10) days prior to the hearing. The written notice shall include the time and place of the hearing and shall specify the exact reason for the hearing. If a person fails to appear at the time and place without valid excuse, the Congregational Council, with a quorum present, may proceed with the hearing and may reach its conclusion in the member's absence. Should the Congregational Council by a two-thirds (2/3) vote support disciplinary action, the Congregational Council shall impose one of the following:</p> <p>a. censure before the Congregational Council or the congregation, b. suspension from membership until evidence is given of sufficient repentance and amendment, c. exclusion from membership and participation in the life of the congregation.</p> <p>In the event of the imposition of (b) or (c) above, the action of the Congregational Council shall be in writing.</p> <p>Section 3. There shall be a right of appeal to the congregation according to a policy approved by the Congregational Council and shall include consultation with the bishop of the synod.</p>	<p>Added: reference to Matthew 18:15-18 from previous Section 7</p> <p>Section 2 – previous Section 8; incorporates lack of reconciliation provision</p> <p>c – replaces ‘denial of the Sacraments’ with ‘participation in the life of the congregation’</p> <p>Section 3 – replaces Section 9 with reference to a right of appeal policy, and consultation with the Synod Bishop</p>
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	<p>Section 4. Right of further appeal from a decision of the congregation shall be as provided in the constitution and bylaws of the synod.</p>	<p>Section 4 – is the last sentence of the previous Section 9</p>
<p>ARTICLE V Authority Section 1. This congregation shall operate in accordance with its own constitution, owning its own property, making decisions in regard to its programming, calling its pastor(s) after consulting with the bishop, and retaining authority in all other matters that have not been committed to the ELCIC or its synods in their constitutions or by subsequent enactments.</p> <p>Section 2. The authority of the congregation shall be vested in the congregational meeting, called and conducted in the manner provided in this constitution, and in the congregational council and in the boards and committees of the congregation as provided by this constitution or as assigned by the congregational meeting.</p> <p>Section 3. Real property shall not be purchased, disposed of or encumbered in any manner except by resolution adopted by no less than a two-thirds majority vote of the members present and voting at a legally called meeting of the congregation.</p> <p>Section 4. Should this congregation disband, all property not disposed of, real, personal and mixed, shall vest in the synod of which it is a part, its successor or assigns.</p>	<p>PART III Authority Section 1. This congregation shall operate in accordance with this constitution and bylaws, including owning its own property, making decisions in regard to its programming, calling its rostered minister(s) after consulting with the bishop of the synod, and is subject to the authority of the ELCIC and its synods as expressed in their constitutions and bylaws as enacted from time to time retaining authority in all other matters that have not been committed to the ELCIC or its synods in their constitutions or bylaws or by subsequent enactments.</p> <p>Section 2. The congregation shall operate in accordance with all applicable laws and regulations.</p> <p>Section 3. The authority of the congregation shall be vested in the congregational meeting, called and conducted in the manner provided in these bylaws, and in the Congregational Council and its committees as provided by these bylaws or as assigned by the congregational meeting.</p> <p>Section 4. Real property shall not be purchased, disposed of or encumbered in any manner except by resolution adopted by no less than a two-thirds (2/3) majority vote of the members present and voting at a properly called meeting of the congregation.</p>	<p>Section 1 – adds reference to ‘authority of the ELCIC and its synods’ constitution and bylaws’</p> <p>Section 2 – new</p> <p>Section 3 – replaces ‘constitution’ with ‘bylaws’</p> <p>Section 4 – no change from Section 2</p>

	<p>congregation, or should this congregation, with the consent of the synod, wish to merge with another congregation from another denomination, this congregation shall do so:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. only in accordance with a resolution adopted by no less than two-thirds (2/3) of the members present and voting at a properly called meeting prior to such merger, and all property real, personal and mixed shall be transferred or disposed of; and, b. the proceeds of such disposition shall be distributed, or the property shall be transferred in accordance with such resolution adopted by no less than two-thirds (2/3) of the members present and voting at a properly called meeting. <p>Section 8. Should this congregation dissolve for whatever reason, other than by merger with another congregation of the ELCIC, and after payment of all debts and liabilities, in accordance with the resolution adopted by no less than two-thirds (2/3) of the members present and voting at a properly called meeting of this congregation prior to the dissolution, all property real, personal and mixed shall vest in the synod of which it is a part, its successor or assigns.</p>	<p>Section 8 – expands previous Section 4</p>
<p>ARTICLE VI</p> <p>Relationship to the Evangelical Lutheran Church in Canada (ELCIC)</p> <p>Section 1. This congregation is and shall remain a part of the ELCIC or its successor and of the synod of the church within whose boundaries it is located or to which it has otherwise been assigned.</p> <p>Section 2. This congregation claims for itself all the rights and privileges and accepts all the duties and obligations connected with being part of the ELCIC.</p>	<p>PART IV</p> <p>Relationship to the Evangelical Lutheran Church in Canada (ELCIC)</p> <p>Section 1. This congregation is and shall be a part of the ELCIC or its successor and of the synod within whose boundaries it is located or to which it has otherwise been assigned.</p> <p>Section 2. This congregation claims for itself all the rights and privileges and accepts all the duties and obligations connected with being part of the ELCIC.</p>	<p>Section 1: no change</p> <p>Section 2: no change</p>

<p>In so doing this congregation recognizes the constitution, bylaws and enactments of this church and of the synod as having governing force in its life.</p> <p>Section 3. This congregation covenants to support faithfully with prayer, personal service and offerings the common work of this church and of the synod for the Kingdom of God.</p> <p>Section 4. This constitution and all amendments thereto, shall be transmitted to the synod for review to ascertain that none of its provisions is in conflict with the constitution and bylaws of the ELCIC or with the synodical constitution.</p> <p>Section 5. Should the congregation desire to relocate or merge with another congregation, it shall secure the advice of the synod before any commitments to that end are entered into.</p> <p>Section 6. Should the congregation desire to sever its relationship with the ELCIC, they shall notify the synod bishop. This decision shall require a two-thirds majority vote of all voting members present and voting at a legally called and conducted meeting. Such a decision shall not be effective until the bishop has been notified and until the initial action has been ratified by a two-thirds majority vote at a subsequent legally called and conducted meeting held not less than ninety days after the first meeting.</p> <p>Section 7. This congregation prohibits any corporate worship with any organization, which practices the forms of religion without confessing faith in the Triune God and in Jesus Christ, the eternal, and incarnate Son of God, as our only Saviour.</p>	<p>In so doing, this congregation recognizes it is subject to the constitution, bylaws and enactments of the ELCIC and of the synod as having governing force in its life.</p> <p>Section 3. This congregation covenants to support faithfully with prayer, personal service and offerings the common work of the ELCIC and of the synod.</p> <p>Section 4. This congregation operates under these synodically approved constitution and bylaws that are in accordance with the constitution and bylaws of the ELCIC and of the synod of which it is a part.</p> <p>Section 5. Should the congregation consider severing its relationship with the ELCIC, it shall confer with the bishop of the synod before any formal steps are taken leading to such action. Subsequent to such consultation with the bishop of the synod, a motion to sever the relationship with the ELCIC may be considered at a special meeting of the congregation. This decision shall require a two-thirds (2/3) majority vote. Notice of the motion and the date and time of the congregational meeting shall be sent by registered mail to the bishop of the synod at least 30 days before the meeting. Such decision shall not be effective until the bishop of the synod has been notified and the initial decision has been ratified by a two-thirds (2/3) majority vote at a subsequent properly called and conducted meeting held not less than 90 days and not more than 150 days after the first meeting. Notice of the date and time of the second meeting shall be sent by registered mail to the bishop of the synod at least 30 days prior to the meeting.</p>	<p>Section 3: no change</p> <p>Section 4: no change</p> <p>Section 5: moved and expanded in Part 3; Section 7</p> <p>Previous Section 6 moved to new Section 5: Expanded to include notice of meeting provisions</p> <p>Previous Section 7: removed</p>
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<p>ARTICLE VII The Office of the Ministry</p> <p>Section 1. A pastor of the congregation shall be a person whose soundness in the faith, aptness to teach and educational qualifications have been examined and approved by the ELCIC, and who has been properly ordained, who accepts and adheres to the Confession of Faith of this church, and who strives in life and conduct to be above reproach.</p> <p>Section 2. Authority to call a pastor shall rest in the congregation. Such authority to call shall be exercised by not less than a two-thirds majority vote of members present and voting at a meeting legally called for that purpose. Throughout the call process the Congregational Council, or a committee authorized by the congregation(s), shall seek the advice and counsel of the bishop of the synod.</p> <p>Section 3. Only an ordained minister on the roster of the ELCIC or one who is recognized for call by a synod of the ELCIC may be called as a pastor of the congregation.</p> <p>Section 4. Every pastor shall:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. Preach the Word, administer the Sacraments and conduct public worship in harmony with the faith and practices of the church; b. Baptize, confirm and marry in accordance with the teaching of the church and with the laws of the province or territory, visit the sick and distressed and bury the dead; c. Inculcate piety in individual and family life and provide pastoral leadership to all schools and auxiliary organizations of the congregation; d. Install members of the Congregational Council and, with the council, administer discipline; 	<p>PART V Office of the Ministry</p> <p>Section 1. A rostered minister of the congregation shall be a person whose soundness in the faith, aptness to teach and educational qualifications have been examined and approved by the ELCIC, and who has been properly ordained or consecrated, who accepts and adheres to the Confession of Faith of the ELCIC, and who strives in life and conduct to be above reproach.</p> <p>Section 2. Authority to call and retain a rostered minister shall rest in the congregation. Such authority shall be exercised by not less than a two-thirds (2/3) majority vote of members present and voting at a meeting properly called for that purpose. Throughout the call process, the Congregational Council, or a committee authorized by the congregation(s), shall seek the advice and counsel of the bishop of the synod.</p> <p>Section 3. Only a minister on the roster of the ELCIC or one who is recognized for call by a synod of the ELCIC may be called as a minister of the congregation.</p> <p>Section 4. The regular call of this congregation when accepted by a rostered minister shall constitute a relationship which shall be terminated for the following causes:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. the resignation of the rostered minister; b. the retirement of the rostered minister; c. disqualification of the rostered minister through discipline; d. division of a pastoral charge; e. the physical or mental incapacity of the rostered minister; f. continued neglect of ministry; 	<p>Section 1: Replaced ‘pastor’ with ‘rostered minister’</p> <p>Section 2: Replaced ‘pastor’ and added ‘retain a rostered minister’</p> <p>Section 3: no change</p> <p>New Section 4 was previous Section 6: Replaced ‘pastor’ with ‘rostered minister’</p> <p>Previous Section 4: removed – covered in the Employment Agreement</p>
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<p>e. Seek out and encourage qualified persons to prepare for the ministry of the Gospel and strive to extend the Kingdom of God in the community, at home and abroad;</p> <p>f. Encourage the members to be generous in support of the ministry of the congregation, the synod and the church;</p> <p>g. Keep accurate membership records including baptisms, confirmations, marriages, burials and communicants, and submit a report of such statistics annually to the secretary of synod on forms provided by the church. The parish records shall be kept in a separate book, which shall remain the property of the congregation;</p> <p>h. Commend members who move to the pastoral care of the parish in which their new home is located.</p> <p>Section 5. In order that a pastor of this congregation may be devoted fully to the duties of the office, adequate compensation and premiums under the church's pension plan shall be provided, paid in semi-monthly or monthly installments. The congregation, except where other provisions are made shall defray expenses incident to attendance at conventions of the synod and this church and at meetings otherwise required by the pastor's office.</p> <p>Section 6. The regular call of this congregation when accepted by a pastor shall constitute a relationship which shall be terminated only for the following causes:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) the resignation of the pastor; 2) the retirement of the pastor; 3) disqualification of the pastor through discipline; 4) division of a pastoral charge; 5) the physical or mental incapacity of the pastor; 6) continued neglect of ministry; 7) inability to conduct the pastoral office satisfactorily 	<p>g. inability to conduct the pastoral office satisfactorily in the parish in view of local conditions, without reflection on the moral and spiritual character of the rostered minister.</p> <p>In the last three contingencies, the procedures provided for in the constitution and bylaws of the synod shall be followed.</p> <p>Section 5. In the event of alleged defection in doctrine or alleged conduct unbecoming a rostered minister, the matter shall be referred by the Congregational Council to the bishop of the synod for action as provided for in the constitution and bylaws of the ELCIC.</p> <p>Section 6. At a time of pastoral vacancy, the Congregational Council shall select an interim minister after consultation with the bishop of the synod. All interim and supply ministers shall refrain from exerting influence in the call process of the congregation.</p>	<p>New Section 5: no change from previous Section 7</p> <p>New Section 6 moved from previous Section 8: Replaced 'pastor' with 'rostered minister'; other details now covered in 'Call Manual' documentation and process</p> <p>Previous Section 5: removed – covered in the Employment Agreement</p>
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<p>in the parish in view of local conditions, without reflection on the moral and spiritual character of the pastor.</p> <p>In the last three contingencies, the procedures provided for in the constitution of the synod shall be followed.</p> <p>Section 7. In the event of alleged defection in doctrine or alleged conduct unbecoming a pastor, the matter shall be referred by the Congregational Council to the bishop for action as provided in the constitution and bylaws of the ELCIC.</p> <p>Section 8. At a time of pastoral vacancy, the Congregational Council shall select an interim pastor after consultation with the bishop. The interim pastor shall have the responsibility of a regularly called pastor. All interim and supply pastors shall refrain from exerting influence in the call process of the congregation.</p> <p>Section 9. When an additional pastor is called, the privileges and responsibilities of that pastor shall be specified in the call drafted in consultation with the incumbent pastor(s), the Congregational Council and the bishop. Section 10. Upon receiving a call to another ministry, the pastor shall consult with the bishop and the chairperson of the Congregational Council before a decision is reached. The pastor shall inform the congregation and the bishop of the decision on the call within thirty days of official notice. When a call has been accepted, the pastor shall normally terminate the ministry within two months.</p>		<p>Previous Sections 9 and 10 removed: covered in ‘Call Manual’ process</p>
<p>ARTICLE VIII Congregational Meeting</p> <p>Section 1. An annual meeting of the congregation shall</p>	<p>PART VI Congregational Meeting</p> <p>Section 1. Voting members at any meeting of the</p>	<p>Section 1: SK legislation</p>

<p>be held on a date to be stated in the bylaws. Semi-annual or quarterly meetings may be held. In addition to the business required by the province of Saskatchewan, reports from organizations of the congregation shall be received.</p> <p>Section 2. Special congregational meetings may be called by the Congregational Council and shall be called at the written request of one-tenth of the voting members. The call for each special meeting shall specify the purpose for which it is to be held, and no other business shall be transacted.</p> <p>Section 3. Notice of all congregational meetings shall be given at the services of worship on the preceding two consecutive Sundays; and in such publications as the congregation or the pastor may periodically issue; or by mail to all voting members at least ten days in advance of the date of the meeting. The pastor shall be notified of all regular and special meetings of the congregation.</p> <p>Section 4. Thirty (30) voting members shall constitute a quorum.</p> <p>Section 5. Proxy or absentee voting shall not be permitted in the transaction of any of the business of the congregation.</p> <p>Section 6. Bourinot's Rules of Order, latest edition, shall be the governing parliamentary law of this congregation, except as otherwise provided in the</p>	<p>congregation shall be those members on the membership roster who have attained the age of 18 as of the date of the meeting.</p> <p>Section 2. The bishop of the synod or his/her designate shall be entitled to attend and speak at any meeting of the congregation.</p> <p>Section 3. The annual meeting of the congregation shall be held within six (6) months of the congregation's fiscal year end.</p> <p>Section 4. Special congregational meetings may be called by the Congregational Council and shall be called at the written request of one-tenth (1/10) of the voting members. The notice for each special meeting shall specify its purpose and no other business shall be transacted.</p> <p>Section 5. Written notice of all congregational meetings shall be sent by mail or electronic mail to all voting members and the rostered minister(s) under call to the congregation at least ten (10) days in advance of the date of the meeting.</p> <p>Section 6. The quorum for all congregational meetings shall be 19 voting members present.</p> <p>Section 7. Proxy or absentee voting shall not be permitted in the transaction of any business of the congregation.</p> <p>Section 8. <i>Bourinot's Rules of Order</i>, latest edition, shall be the governing parliamentary law of this congregation, except as otherwise provided in the</p>	<p>Section 2: New</p> <p>Section 3: New; required by SK legislation</p> <p>New Section 4: no change from previous Section 2</p> <p>New Section 5 moved from previous Section 3: removes requirement for two consecutive Sunday notice and adds electronic mail</p> <p>Section 6: recommended double the number of Council members (max 9) plus 1</p> <p>New Section 7: no change from previous Section 5</p> <p>New Section 8: no change from previous Section 6</p>
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<p>constitution or bylaws of the ELCIC or in this constitution or its bylaws.</p> <p>Section 7. The current roster of voting, confirmed and baptized members shall be available at each meeting of the congregation.</p>	<p>constitution and bylaws of the ELCIC or in these bylaws.</p>	<p>Previous Section 7: removed: privacy requirements</p>
<p>ARTICLE IX Congregational Council and its Officers</p> <p>Section 1. At its annual meeting the congregation shall elect a Congregational Council of not less than six nor more than twenty-four members for terms of three years each with approximately one-third of the terms expiring annually. The members of the council must be voting members of the congregation. After having served two full consecutive terms, any member cannot be re-elected to Council for one year.</p> <p>Section 2. The pastor shall be an ex officio member, with voice but no vote of Congregational Council and all its committees and shall be notified of all regular or special meetings of the Congregational Council.</p> <p>Section 3. All elected members of the Congregational Council shall be installed by the pastor according to the prescribed order of the church at the next public service following their election or as soon thereafter as convenient.</p> <p>Section 4. The past Chairperson shall convene the first meeting of the Congregational Council following the annual meeting of the congregation or until a new Chairperson is chosen. At that meeting, the Council shall elect from its own membership a chairperson, a vice chairperson and a secretary who shall be</p>	<p>PART VII Congregational Council and its Officers</p> <p>Section 1. At its annual meeting, the congregation shall elect a Congregational Council of no less than six (6) and no more than nine (9) members for terms of three (3) years each with approximately half of the terms expiring annually. No member of Congregational Council shall be eligible to serve for more than three (3) consecutive terms. The members of the Congregational Council must be voting members of the congregation.</p> <p>Section 2. Rostered minister(s) under call to the congregation shall not be a member of the Congregational Council but shall be entitled to receive notice of, attend and speak at all regular or special meetings of the Congregational Council and all its committees.</p> <p>Section 3. All members of the Congregational Council shall be installed by a rostered minister at the next public service following their election or as soon thereafter as convenient.</p> <p>Section 4. At its first meeting following the annual meeting of the congregation, the Congregational Council shall elect from its own membership a chairperson, a vice-chairperson and a secretary who shall be chairperson, vice-chairperson and secretary of the congregation. The council shall elect a treasurer</p>	<p>Section 1: Council has operated at a maximum of 9 members for several years. Current practice of 2 three year terms; recommend increase to 3 three year terms for continuity.</p> <p>Section 2: replaces ‘pastor’ with ‘rostered minister’; provides automatic seat and voice at Council meetings; removes requirement for ‘all committees’</p> <p>Section 3: no change</p> <p>Section 4: removes requirement for ‘past Chairperson’ to convene first meeting</p>

<p>chairperson, vice chairperson and secretary of the congregation. The council shall also elect a treasurer and a financial secretary who need not be members of the Congregational Council.</p> <p>Section 5. The Congregational Council shall be the trustees of the congregation and shall have a general oversight of the life and activities of the congregation, ensuring that everything is done in accordance with the Word of God and the faith and practice of the ELCIC. The Congregational Council shall exercise such authority as is delegated to it by this constitution, the by-laws and the resolutions of the congregation, and may adopt such policies not in conflict with these documents as needed to carry out its mandate.</p> <p>Section 6. A majority shall constitute the quorum for transacting the business of the Congregational Council.</p> <p>Section 7. If a vacancy occurs on the Congregational Council, the Council shall fill the vacancy until the next meeting of the congregation. Should the unexpired term be one year or less, it shall not be considered in determining eligibility for succession.</p> <p>Section 8. A member of the Congregational Council who is absent from two consecutive regular meetings shall be contacted by the chairperson of the congregation; if the member is absent from three consecutive regular meetings without valid excuse, the Council may declare the position vacant.</p> <p>Section 9. The council shall declare vacant the position of any council member whose membership in the congregation is terminated for any of the reasons stated in Article IV of this constitution or whose status as a voting member in good standing (cf. Article IV)</p>	<p>who need not be a member of the Congregational Council but shall be a member of the congregation.</p> <p>Section 5. The Congregational Council shall be the trustees of the congregation and shall have general oversight of the life and activities of the congregation ensuring that everything is done in accordance with the Word of God and the faith and practice of the ELCIC. The Congregational Council shall exercise such authority as is delegated to it by its constitution and bylaws, and the resolutions of the congregation, and may adopt such policies not in conflict with these documents as needed to carry out its mandate.</p> <p>Section 6. A majority of members of the Congregational Council shall constitute the quorum for transacting the business of the Congregational Council.</p> <p>Section 7. If a vacancy occurs on the Congregational Council, the Congregational Council is empowered to fill the vacancy until the next annual meeting of the congregation. Should the unexpired term be one (1) year or less, it shall not be considered in determining eligibility for re-election.</p> <p>Section 8. A member of the Congregational Council who is absent from two (2) consecutive regular meetings shall be contacted by the chairperson of the congregation. If the member is absent from three (3) consecutive regular meetings without valid excuse, the Congregational Council may declare the position vacant.</p> <p>Section 9. The Congregational Council shall declare vacant the position of any council member whose membership in the congregation is terminated as provided for in these bylaws. The Congregational</p>	<p>Section 5: no change</p> <p>Section 6: no change</p> <p>Section 7: no change</p> <p>Section 8: no change</p> <p>Section 9: no change</p>
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<p>has not been maintained. The council may declare vacant the position of any council member who has been suspended from membership in the congregation by disciplinary action of the council (Article IV) or has been censured by a two-thirds vote of the members of council for behaviour that is inconsistent with the policies of the council and the congregation.</p> <p>Section 10. The pastor, the chairperson or any three members of the Congregational Council may call a special meeting. Notice of such meetings shall be given not less than 3 days prior to the meeting and shall be announced at a public service if one is held during that period.</p>	<p>Council may declare vacant the position of any council member who has been suspended from membership in the congregation by disciplinary action of the council or has been censured by a two-thirds (2/3) vote of the members of Congregational Council for behaviour that is inconsistent with the policies of the Congregational Council and/or the congregation.</p> <p>Section 10. A rostered minister under call to the congregation, the chairperson or any three (3) members of the Congregational Council may call a special meeting. Notice of such meeting shall be given not less than three (3) days prior to the meeting and shall be announced at a regular service if one is held during that period.</p>	<p>Section 10: no change</p>
<p>ARTICLE X Duties of the Congregational Council and its Officers</p> <p>Section 1. The chairperson shall preside at all meetings of the council and of the congregation. The agenda shall be prepared in consultation with the pastor.</p> <p>Section 2. The vice-chairperson shall preside at the meetings of the council and of the congregation in the absence of the chairperson.</p> <p>Section 3. The secretary shall keep the minutes of the council and of the congregation in a volume provided by the congregation, which shall be permanently preserved in the congregational archives.</p> <p>Section 4. The treasurer shall have custody of all funds of the congregation and shall receive and disburse such funds in accordance with the decision of the congregation and of the council. The treasurer shall make monthly remittance of the benevolence receipts to the treasurer of the synod.</p>		<p>Sections 1 – 6 are moved to Part VIII</p>

<p>Section 5. The financial secretary shall maintain records of and issue receipts for all contributions.</p> <p>Section 6. The treasurer and the financial secretary shall make written report of all financial transactions to the council monthly and to the congregation with audit at the annual meeting. All financial officers shall be bonded.</p> <p>Section 7. The Congregation Council shall:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Lead the congregation in stating its mission, in doing long-range planning, in setting goals and priorities, and in evaluating its activities in the light of its mission and goals; b. Seek to involve all members of the congregation in worship, learning, witness, service and support; c. Provide support for the pastor(s) and other professional leaders, assist them to review and evaluate their ministry, and review annually their financial compensation, making adequate adjustments; d. Exemplify for the congregation the life that is worth living of the high calling in Christ; e. Promote congregational unity and good will, fostering mutual understanding in time of conflict, and exercising discipline, when necessary, under the provisions of this constitution. f. Arrange for pastoral service during the sickness or absence of the pastor; g. Appoint or elect all staff, voluntary or salaried, for the effective administration of all aspects of parish life; h. Appoint such committees as may be necessary or advisable; i. Normally meet once a month; j. Be responsible for maintaining and protecting the property of the congregation. 	<p>Section 11. The Congregational Council shall:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. lead the congregation in stating its mission, doing long-range planning, setting goals and priorities and evaluating its activities in the light of its mission and goals; b. seek to involve all members of the congregation in worship, learning, witness, service and support; c. provide support for the rostered minister(s) and other professional leaders, assist them to review and evaluate their ministry and review annually their financial compensation making adequate adjustments; d. exemplify for the congregation the life that is worthy of the high calling in Christ; e. promote congregational unity and good will, fostering mutual understanding in times of conflict through reconciliation and exercising discipline, when necessary, under the provision of these bylaws; f. arrange for pastoral service during the sickness or absence of the rostered minister(s); g. appoint or elect all staff, voluntary or salaried, for the effective administration of all aspects of parish life; h. appoint such committees as may be necessary or advisable; i. normally meet once a month; j. be responsible for maintaining and protecting the property of the congregation; 	<p>New Section 11: no change (a – j) from previous Section 7</p>
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<p>k. Prepare an annual budget, supervise the expenditure of funds and ensure that the financial affairs of the congregation are conducted efficiently;</p> <p>l. Ensure that the annual budget includes an adequate support for the church at large that monthly benevolence monies are forwarded;</p> <p>m. Report its activities to the annual meeting of the congregation and at such other times as the congregation may decide.</p> <p>n. Emphasize the partnership of the congregation with the synod and the ELCIC and encourage support for the work of the church at large.</p>	<p>k. obtain insurance protection that:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> i. provides coverage for fraud committed by an employee or volunteer of the congregation; and ii. limits the liability of the members of the Congregational Council; <p>l. prepare an annual budget, supervise the expenditure of funds and ensure that the financial affairs of the congregation are conducted efficiently;</p> <p>m. ensure that the annual budget for adoption by the congregation includes adequate support for the church at large and that regular monthly benevolence monies are forwarded; and</p> <p>n. emphasize the partnership of the congregation with the synod and the ELCIC and encourage support for the work of the church at large.</p> <p>Section 12. Congregational Council members may participate in a meeting of the council by means of electronic facilities that permit all persons participating in the meeting to hear each other. Each council member participating in such a meeting by such means is deemed to be present at the meeting.</p> <p>Section 13. The Congregational Council may conduct a vote of the Congregational Council via email. Protocol for conducting these votes shall be outlined in a policy approved by the Congregational Council. Results of the vote shall be recorded in the minutes of the next Congregational Council meeting.</p> <p>Section 14. Conflict of interest:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. A Congregational Council member shall declare a conflict of interest and will not take part in any discussion or vote if he or she or 	<p>k: Adds insurance protection (risk management)</p> <p>Previous m: removes reporting of activities; included in a – evaluation of activities</p> <p>Section 12: adds electronic meeting provision</p> <p>Section 13: adds electronic voting provision</p> <p>Section 14: adds conflict of interest</p>
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	<p>any member of their immediate family in any way, directly or indirectly, benefits from an existing or proposed contract, transaction or arrangement with the congregation.</p> <p>b. The Congregational Council may declare that a real or perceived conflict of interest exists with a council member and that member will not participate in any discussion or vote.</p>	
	<p>PART VIII Duties of the Congregational Council Officers</p> <p>Section 1. The chairperson shall preside at all meetings of the Congregational Council and of the congregation. The agenda shall be prepared in consultation with the rostered minister.</p> <p>Section 2. The vice-chairperson shall preside at the meetings of the Congregational Council and of the congregation in the absence of the chairperson. In the event that the chairperson and vice-chairperson are absent, the chair of the meeting will be chosen by the quorum present.</p> <p>Section 3. The secretary is accountable for keeping the minutes of the Congregational Council and of the congregation in a volume provided by the congregation, which shall be permanently preserved in the congregational archives.</p> <p>Section 4. The treasurer shall:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. keep or cause to be kept proper accounting records; b. be responsible for the deposit of money, the safekeeping of securities and the disbursement of the funds of this congregation; c. make monthly remittance of benevolence receipts to the treasurer of the synod; 	<p>Moved from Article X; Section 1 – 6</p> <p>Sections 1 – 3: no change</p> <p>Section 4: outlines duties in more detail; removes requirement for Financial Secretary</p>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> d. keep or cause to be kept a proper set of books showing accurately the financial position of this congregation; e. ensure that receipts are issued for all contributions; f. render to the Congregational Council whenever requested by such an account of all transactions as treasurer and of the financial position of this congregation; g. have prepared for submission to the annual meeting a set of financial statements of this congregation since the previous annual meeting; h. ensure an annual audit or review of year-end financial statements; i. when requested to do so by the Congregational Council, prepare or have prepared interim financial statements; and j. perform such other duties as may from time to time be directed by the Congregational Council. 	
<p>Article XI All auxiliaries and organizations within the congregation shall exist to aid it in ministering to its members and to all whom it can reach with the Gospel of Christ. Regular reports concerning the program and work of these organizations and auxiliaries shall be made to the Congregational Council and congregational meetings.</p>		<p>Removed: are incorporated into congregational policies</p>
<p>Article XI Bylaws and Amendments Section 1. Amendments to this constitution may be proposed by the Congregational Council and shall be proposed by the council at the request of five voting members. Such proposed amendments shall be: a. Announced at two successive public services of the congregation or mailed to the voting members not less than thirty days before the meeting at which they are to be considered;</p>	<p>PART IX Amendments Section 1. Amendments to this constitution or bylaws, with the exception of ARTICLE II, may be proposed by the Congregational Council and shall be proposed by the council at the request of five (5) voting members. Such proposed amendments shall: a. be reviewed by the Congregational Council; b. be distributed to the voting members, along with the recommendation of the Congregational</p>	<p>Section 1: does not allow for changes to the Confession of Faith a – b: adds review by Council and removes requirement for two meeting (often takes two</p>

<p>b. Approved with or without change by a majority vote of those present and voting;</p> <p>c. Approved without further change at a second congregational meeting to be held not less than thirty days later by a two-thirds majority vote of those present and voting;</p> <p>d. Become effective upon official notice and approval of the Synod Council.</p> <p>Section 2. This congregation may adopt such bylaws, not in conflict with this constitution, as may be necessary. Such bylaws may be adopted or amended at any legally called and conducted meeting of the congregation by a two-thirds vote of those present and voting.</p> <p>Section 3. The Confession of Faith as stated in ARTICLE II shall be that of the ELCIC.</p> <p>Section 4. If in the judgement of the Synod Council an amendment to the constitution and bylaws of the ELCIC, to the Approved constitution for Synods, or to the Approved Constitution for Congregations ought to entail related amendments to this constitution, receipt of an official communication to that effect from the secretary of the synod enclosing a draft of the amendment recommended by the Synod Council shall constitute proper proposal and notice thereof. Adoption of such an amendment shall then be in order at the next following meeting of the congregation.</p>	<p>Council, not less than 30 days before the meeting at which they are to be considered;</p> <p>c. require a two-thirds (2/3) majority vote of those present and voting in order to be approved;</p> <p>i. amendments to the proposed amendment may only be considered in order to clarify the intent of the proposed amendment and require a two-thirds (2/3) majority for approval;</p> <p>ii. any changes to the basic intent of the proposed amendment shall require an additional meeting with at least 30 days' notice;</p> <p>d. become effective upon official notice and approval by the Synod Council.</p> <p>Section 2. This constitution and bylaws and all amendments thereto, shall be transmitted to the synod for review and to ascertain that none of its provisions are in conflict with the constitution and bylaws of the ELCIC or with the synod constitution and bylaws.</p> <p>Section 3. If, in the judgment of the National Church Council, an amendment of this constitution or bylaws is required, the secretary of the ELCIC shall provide official communication to that effect which will include a draft of the recommended amendment. Adoption of such an amendment shall then be in order at the next properly called meeting of the congregation. Two-thirds (2/3) majority vote of those present and voting shall be required. Confirmation of approval shall be submitted to Synod Council.</p>	<p>years) approval</p> <p>c: provides clarity regarding amendments 'on the floor'</p> <p>d: no change</p> <p>Section 2: requires submission to Synod; adoption process already outlined in Section 1</p> <p>Previous Section 3: moved to Article II</p> <p>New Section 3 renumbered Section 4: clarifies that National Church Council may require changes</p>
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