

## To the congregation of First Lutheran Church,

We have 3 Constitutional changes to vote on at the Annual Meeting on February 9, 2025 at noon. According to our constitution under Chapters 10 and 16. it states

C10.07. - In the following cases, voting shall be by written ballot:

b. To adopt or amend the congregation constitution or bylaws

C16.02. - Bylaws may be adopted or amended at any legally called meeting of this congregation with a quorum present by a majority vote of those voting members present and voting.

C16.03. - Changes to the bylaws may be proposed by any voting member provided, however, that such additions or amendments be submitted in writing to the Congregation Council at least sixty (60) days before a regular or special Congregation meeting called for that purpose and that the Congregation Council notify this congregations' members by **mail** of the proposal with the council's recommendations at least thirty (30) days in advance of the Congregation Meeting.

C10.03. Or other generally accepted notification processes. *Changed in 2020 to allow for **email***

C16.04. - Approved changes to the bylaws shall be sent, by the secretary of this congregation, to the synod.

## Constitutional Change #1 - Children's Board

According to the 2020 Annual Report the Children's Board had 3 members and 2 Superintendents. As stated in our Constitution at that time:

### Current Constitutional Wording

C12.20. - The standing Boards of this congregation are:

C. The Board of Children's Ministry, which shall consist of three (3) elected members and the education superintendent(s).

According to the 2021 Annual Report the Children's Board went to 5 members and no Superintendent(s).

Revised Constitutional Wording

C. The Board of Children's Ministry, which shall consist of five (5) elected members

If this vote is confirmed the official change will take place 2/8/2026. As we move forward we will continue to elect 5 members with no Superintendents.

## **Constitutional Change #2 - Financial Secretary**

Current Constitutional Wording

BL.4.06 - The duties of the financial secretary shall be:

- a. To keep a confidential record of the individual contributions made through the envelopes,
- b. To prepare individual quarterly statements,
- c. To provide written verification to contributors for tax purposes.

Revised Constitutional Wording

BL.4.06 - The duties of the financial secretary shall be:

- a. To choose and lead a team of at least three (3) people that will weekly count the offering from each worship service and what was mailed into First Lutheran.
- b. To verify that the confidential records of each individual contributions are kept,
- c. To verify that the individual quarterly statements are sent,
- d. To verify that the documentation is sent to contributors for tax purposes.

If this vote is confirmed the change will take place 2/9/2025

## **Constitutional Change #3 - Converting the Mission Team to a Standing Board**

Currently the Mission Team consists of 8 volunteer "non" elected members and the pastors. They have a chair and secretary. They determine how our "mission team" money is distributed and to whom.

Our proposed plan is to make them a 5 person elected member standing board. Of those 5 members they will select a chairperson and secretary. They would report directly to the Trustees and would be represented on the Full Congregational Council.

**C12.20.** The standing Boards of this congregation are:

- a. The Board of Deacons, which shall consist of five (5) elected members.
- b. The Board of Trustees, which shall consist of five (5) elected members. The president, secretary, financial secretary, and treasurer of this congregation shall also be voting members of the Board of Trustees.
- c. The Board of Children's Ministry, which shall consist of three (3) elected members and the education superintendent(s). *(We are working with five (5) elected members and no education superintendent as indicated in constitution revision #1 in this letter.)*
- d. The Board of Youth and Family, which shall consist of five (5) members.
- e. The Board of Missions, which shall consist of five (5) members.**

**BL2.02.** Next ring represents the Standing Boards:

- a. Trustees,
- b. Deacons,
- c. Children's Ministry,
- d. Youth and Family
- e. Mission**

**BL.5.08** Duties of the Board of Missions shall be:

- a. To consider matters relating to the missions of this congregation,**
- b. The board of Trustees will approve funds for mission support and benevolence, through the budget process, the Board of Missions will coordinate the distribution of these funds.**

- c. To regularly communicate descriptions of the mission ministries of the congregation,
- d. To regularly invite participation in mission ministries from the congregation,
- e. To regularly communicate the outcomes of mission ministries.
- f. To regularly evaluate mission ministries and explore new opportunities
- g. To appoint and direct the activities of committees, task forces or ministry teams that may be necessary from time to time,
- h. To foster relationships with missionaries and support them.
- i. To consider matters relating to the needs of the sick and needy,
- j. To elect from its membership a chairperson and secretary,
- k. To conduct regular meetings not less than once per month,
- l. To make recommendations to the annual meeting or any specially called meeting of this congregation,
- m. To report its activities to the annual meeting of this congregation.

**C12.23.** The members of each Board shall be elected at the annual meeting for a term of three (3) years. To promote consistency and continuity, the terms of each of the Board members initially shall be staggered.

**C12.24.** The members of each Board shall not be eligible for more than two (2) consecutive terms in the same position.

If the congregation moves for this conversion to happen then the final vote will take place at the 2025 Annual Meeting on February 9, 2026.

Pastor Perry Aalgaard - Senior Pastor

Cindy Redmond - Congregational President