

## **BYLAWS**

### **ARTICLE 13.0**

### **PROCEDURES FOR CALLING ORDAINED AND COMMISSIONED MINISTERS**

13.1 When a pastor is to be called, every member of the congregation shall have the privilege of making one or more nominations. The congregation shall also ask the President of the Synodical District for recommendations. In the case of a pastoral call the Board of Deacons will serve as the screening committee.

13.2 In the screening process, the respective screening committee shall submit all names to the District President for information and evaluation. After receiving information and recommendations from the District President, the respective screening committee shall present to the congregation, by means of a public announcement, two or more preferred candidates, together with a biographical sketch of each.

13.3 At the Voters Assembly called for the purpose of electing a new pastor, the preferred list may be amended by means of a  $2/3^{\text{rds}}$  majority vote of those present. At that point, the Voters Assembly shall be asked to agree to be satisfied with whatever selection is finally made by the congregation.

13.4 Balloting shall proceed by means of a secret ballot vote. A majority is needed in order to determine the disposition of the call.

13.5 The four preceding procedures shall be used in the calling of any other Synodical rostered commissioned church worker. The President of the congregation may appoint a committee to perform the screening task.

## **ARTICLE 14.0**

## **CHURCH COUNCIL**

### **14.1 Membership**

The Church Council shall be the board of directors and shall consist of the President, the Vice President, the Secretary, the Treasurer of the congregation, the Financial Secretary, and the elected chairman of these Boards: Deacons, Trustees, Education, Evangelism, and Stewardship. The Pastor shall be a voting member of the Church Council. The President and the Secretary of the congregation shall serve as President and Secretary of the Church Council.

### **14.2 Meetings**

The Church Council shall meet at least eight times each year in the months in which there is no regularly scheduled Voters Assembly. Special meetings may be called by the President, the Pastor, or any three members of the Church Council by sending a notice which shall be delivered to the residence of each member at least twenty four (24) hours in advance. A majority of the voting members of the Church Council shall constitute a quorum.

### **14.3 Duties**

It shall be the principal duty of the Church Council to coordinate the programs and activities of the various boards and committees of the congregation. It shall have power to act in behalf of the congregation between meetings of the Voters Assembly.

## ARTICLE 15.0

## NOMINATIONS AND ELECTIONS

15.1 A Nominating Committee, chosen by the Church Council, shall present a slate of candidates for all elected offices. The slate shall normally consist of two names for each office. Additional nominations may be made from the floor. No person shall be nominated without his or her consent.

15.2 All officers shall be elected by a majority ballot vote and voting shall continue until a clear majority has been established after candidates receiving the lowest number of votes have been eliminated in each succeeding ballot.

15.3 The following officers are elected for these terms of office:

<i>Offices</i>	<i>Term of Office</i>
President	One year
Vice President	One year
Secretary	One year
Treasurer	Two years
Financial Secretary	Two years
Deacons - Twelve (12)	3 year terms with 1/3 elected yearly
Trustees - Six (6)	3 year terms with 1/3 elected yearly
Education – Six (6)	3 year terms with 1/3 elected yearly
Stewardship	Three years
Evangelism	Three years

15.4 Other members of boards and committees shall be appointed or elected for terms of office as set forth in the congregation's "Officer and Leader Handbook with Guidelines."

15.5 An officer may be re-elected to an office once, allowing that officer to serve in two consecutive terms.

15.6 Officers, board, and committee members shall be publicly inducted in the church services of the first Sunday following the election.

15.7 In the case of a vacancy in an elected office, the Church Council shall appoint a successor to serve until the next annual election.

## **ARTICLE 16.0**

## **OFFICIAL DUTIES**

16.1 Officers, board, and committee members shall perform the duties prescribed in the Constitution. The congregation shall also have the privilege from time to time of detailing and enlarging these responsibilities by majority vote of the Voters Assembly. It may also call such other boards and committees into being as it may need from time to time.

## **ARTICLE 17.0**

## **MEETINGS**

17.1 The Voters Assembly shall meet on the second Sunday in January, April, July and October, unless the second Sunday is a festival day, then the meeting shall be held on the Sunday following. The budget for the following year and the nominations for officers will be presented at the October meeting. Election of officers for the year will be held at the January meeting.

17.2 In case of necessity, the Church Council shall be authorized to change the date of the Voters Assembly meeting.

17.3 At the regular meeting of the Voters Assembly, the Order of Business shall include the following: Devotion, Roll Call, Minutes of previous meetings, Admission of new members, Parochial Report, Reports of Officers, Boards and Committees, Old Business, New Business, Adjournment, and Prayer/Benediction.

17.4 The Order of Business for Special Voters Assembly meetings shall include the following: Devotion, Roll Call, Business, Adjournment, and Prayer/Benediction.

## **ARTICLE 18.0**

## **RULES OF ORDER**

18.1 In addition to principles laid down in Scripture, the latest edition of *Robert's Rules of Order* shall be followed.

## **ARTICLE 19.0**

## **AMENDMENTS**

19.1 These Bylaws may be amended in a properly convened meeting of the Voters Assembly by a majority of all voting members present, provided the proposed change has been announced in a previous meeting or has been submitted in writing to all Voter Assembly members at least two weeks prior to the meeting. The amendatory procedures for the Bylaws shall also apply to amendments of the Officer and Leader Handbook.