

ARTICLE 2: PURPOSE

The purpose of this congregation shall be to build and enlarge the Kingdom of God, and to foster Christian fellowship, ~~sharing of faith and love by the proclamation of the Word of God, by bearing witness against all false doctrine and schism, by the administration of the Sacraments, by the Christian instruction of children, youth and adults, by managing and utilizing the diversity of gifts and resources received, and by provision for opportunities for growth in Christian living,~~ according to the confessional standard of the Evangelical Lutheran Church (Article 3).

ARTICLE 4: MEMBERSHIP

B. ~~Communicant~~ Confirmed Membership

~~Communicant~~ Confirmed membership in our congregation shall be extended to all those persons who:

C. Voting Membership

All ~~communicant~~ confirmed members who have reached the age of 18 shall be entitled to vote.

ARTICLE 6: POWERS OF THE CONGREGATION

A. General

The congregation as a body, through the voting members, who are guided by the Holy Spirit, shall have supreme power to administer and manage all its external and internal affairs. ~~The establishment and conduct of all institutions within the congregation, such as all schools, societies, and organizations shall at all times be subject to the approval and supervision of the congregation.~~ The congregation, however, shall in all things be bound to the authority of the Word of God; any decision contrary to the Word of God shall be null and void.

D. Powers of Officers

Congregational officers, ~~the Administrative Council, the Administrative Boards~~ boards or any committees, whether elected or appointed ~~by the voters~~, shall have no authority beyond that which has been conferred upon them, and whatever power may have been delegated to them may at any time be altered or revoked by the voting members.

ARTICLE 8: OFFICERS

The officers of this congregation shall be ~~President~~ Chair, Vice ~~President~~ Chair, and Secretary, ~~Treasurer~~, ~~Assistant Treasurer~~ and together with the directors of the various boards, ~~will~~ shall constitute the "~~Administrative Council~~ Board of Directors". ~~The Pastor(s) is an ex-officio member of all boards and their associated committees; however, his attendance is not required but may be requested.~~

~~Women may serve as officers and as members of boards and committees as long as these positions are not directly involved in the specific functions of the Pastoral Office (preaching, the public administration of the sacraments, church discipline) and as long as this service does not violate the order of creation (usurping authority over men as outlined in I Timothy, Chapter 2). Accordingly, they shall not serve as pastor or as a member of the Board of Elders.~~

ARTICLE 14: AMENDMENTS

A. Amendments to this Constitution may be adopted at an regular assembly of voting members provided that:

3. The proposed amendment is published in at least two successive parish-wide distributions in advance of the meeting newsletters (Peace Offering).

C. The District Polity Commission of the Northern Illinois District of the Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod ~~recommends that the District Polity Commission~~ shall be consulted ~~before~~ with proposed constitution changes are planned or formulated before they are adopted. After input from the District Polity Commission (as outlined in the Prince of Peace Policy and Procedure manual), formulation of the amendment draft(s), and a vote to adopt the constitution amendment(s) by the congregation, the constitution will be submitted to the District Board of Directors for final approval.