

BYLAWS

For the Congregation

St. Paul's

Evangelical Lutheran Church

Lionville, Pennsylvania



104 South Village Avenue, Exton, PA 19341

BYLAWS

For the Congregation of

St. Paul's Lutheran Church of Lionville

PREAMBLE

As provided for in the Constitution for St. Paul's Lutheran Church of Lionville, Pennsylvania, we, the baptized members of the Church of Christ, responding in faith to the call of the Holy Spirit through the Gospel, desiring to unite together to preach the Word, administer the sacraments, and carry out God's mission, do hereby adopt these BYLAWS to such constitution and solemnly pledge ourselves to be governed by its provisions. In the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

These BYLAWS are to clarify the Constitution. In the event that there are any direct conflict between these BYLAWS and the Constitution, the provisions of the Constitution shall govern. In the event there are any direct conflict between these BYLAWS and the Continuing Resolutions, these BYLAWS shall govern.

CHAPTER 5 POWERS OF THE CONGREGATION

5.04 This Congregation delegates to the Congregation Council the authority to choose among its voting members laypersons to serve as voting members of the Synod Assembly as well as persons to represent it at meetings of any conference, cluster, coalition, or other area subdivision of which it is a member.

CHAPTER 8 MEMBERSHIP

8.05 Membership inactivity in this congregation shall be defined as non-communing and non-contributing for a period of two consecutive years. Members who meet this requirement shall be removed from the roll of this congregation, upon the recommendation by the pastor(s) or the Congregation Council and majority vote of the Congregation Council.

CHAPTER 10 CONGREGATION MEETING

10.01 The annual meeting of the congregation shall be held in January of each year.

10.03 Members may give the Congregation Council permission to use electronic mail instead of US mail to provide notifications required by the St. Paul's Constitution. This must be done in writing and records of this agreement will be kept in this congregation's office. In this event, submitting an Email to the last known Email address shall be sufficient to meet the notice requirements.

10.05 Voting by proxy or by absentee ballot shall not be permitted.

CHAPTER 11 OFFICERS

11.01 Term Limits of the Officers of this Congregation

- 11.01.1 The officers of this congregation shall be elected by written ballot of the Congregation Council. They shall serve for a term length provided herein or until their successors are elected.
- 11.01.2 The officers of this congregation shall be eligible to serve only two consecutive terms in the same office.
- 11.01.3 The terms of the president, vice president, and secretary shall be one year.
- 11.01.4 The terms of the treasurer and the financial secretary shall be two years. The treasurer and the financial secretary terms should not expire in the same year.
- 11.01.5 Individuals appointed to complete a term of an officer, who have served less than one-half of a regular term, shall be eligible for nomination and possible election to two full consecutive terms. Individuals appointed to complete a term of an officer, who have served more than one-half of a regular term, shall be eligible for nomination and possible election to one full consecutive term.

11.01.a Election of Officers

- 11.01.a.1 The officers of the congregation shall be elected at the first regular meeting of the Congregation Council after installation of the new members. A written ballot shall be used for the election of all church officers as means to show majority support for the officer.
- 11.01.a.2 The first ballot shall be a nominating ballot. For a nominee to be elected on the first ballot requires a $\frac{3}{4}$ majority of the elected council.
- 11.01.a.3 On the second ballot, any nominee receiving a $\frac{2}{3}$ majority of the elected council will be declared elected. In the absence of a $\frac{2}{3}$ majority, the nominee receiving the least number of votes will be dropped from the ballot unless this results in less than two nominees remaining for the next ballot.
- 11.01.a.4 On the third and subsequent ballots, any nominee receiving a simple majority of elected council will be declared elected. In the absence of a majority, the nominee with the least number of votes will be dropped from the ballot unless this results in less than two nominees remaining for the next ballot.
- 11.01.a.5 Newly elected officers take office at the Congregation Council meeting in which they are elected.

11.01.e

11.01.f **Duties of the Officers of this Congregation**

11.01.f.1 **President**

- 11.01.f.1.1 Preside over administrative functions of the Congregation Council.
- 11.01.f.1.2 Provide signature authority for all invoices and bills. This signature authority may be delegated, in writing.

11.01.f.2 **Vice-President**

- 11.01.f.2.1 Provide assistance to the President as required.

11.01.f.3 **Recording Secretary**

- 11.01.f.3.1 Record and maintain records of Congregation Council meetings and this congregation's meetings.

11.01.f.4 **Treasurer**

- 11.01.f.4.1 Maintain and record all financial records of the Congregation Council.

11.01.f.5 **Financial Secretary**

- 11.01.f.5.1 Receive and keep record of all income from all contributing members and other sources.

CHAPTER 12 CONGREGATION COUNCIL

12.01.1 Election and Terms of Congregation Council Members

- 12.01.1.1 Members of the Congregation Council except the pastor(s) shall serve for a term of three years or until their successors are elected and installed.
 - 12.01.1.2 Elections for Members of the Congregation Council except the pastor(s) shall occur at the annual congregation meeting.
 - 12.01.1.3 Members the Congregation Council except the pastor(s) shall be eligible to serve no more than two full terms consecutively.
 - 12.01.1.4 Employees of this congregation are not eligible to serve on the Congregation Council
- 12.05.1 The Congregation Council may enter into contracts, in value of up to 2% of the current annual congregation budget, for items not included in the budget without specific approval by a congregational meeting.

CHAPTER 13 CONGREGATION COMMITTEES

- 13.01.1 **Additional Standing Congregation Committees** The Congregation Council shall form the following committees as a minimum. Additional committees will be authorized by continuing resolutions.
- 12.01.1.1 A **Nominating Committee** of six voting members of this congregation, two of whom, if possible, shall be outgoing members of the Congregation Council, shall be elected at the annual meeting for a term of one year. Members of the Nominating Committee are not eligible for consecutive reelection.
- 12.01.1.2 An **Audit Committee** of three voting members shall be elected by the Congregation Council. Audit Committee members shall not be members of the Congregation Council. Term of office shall be three years, with one member elected each year. Members shall be eligible for reelection.
- 12.01.1.3 A **Mutual Ministry Committee** (in the absence of a mutual ministry committee, the duties shall be fulfilled by the Executive Committee) shall be appointed jointly by the president and the pastor. Term of office shall be three years, with two members to be appointed each successive year.
- 12.01.1.4 When a pastoral vacancy occurs, a **Call Committee** of six voting members shall be elected by the Congregation Council. Term of office will terminate upon installation of the newly called pastor.