

RESURRECTION LUTHERAN CHURCH

EXPLANATIONS OF 2025 REVISIONS

TO THE BY-LAWS

BACKGROUND

The RLC Council has been reviewing governance definitions and documents with moving to a large church type of operation. In 2024, Council provided definitions of committees, task force and ministries. Also in 2024, Council recognized that the by-laws should have some additional clarifications. This task was scheduled to be done in 2025 so that the congregation could vote on the proposed revisions at the 2025 Annual Meeting.

Council created a task force of 3 Council members to review the By-Laws in detail and write the proposed revisions. The task force members are Mimi Heywood, Rob Hartmann and Lorene Faulkner. Their proposed revisions were presented to Council for review and approval. After several discussions and revisions, the Council approved that the revisions are ready to be taken to the Congregation for approval.

EXPLANATION OF PROPOSED CHANGES

Paragraph 2 – ANNUAL CONGREGATIONAL MEETING

The annual meeting date is changed from no later than the first Sunday to the second Sunday of December. There are certain years that the first Sunday of December is the Thanksgiving holiday weekend which is not a good time.

The purpose of the annual meeting was expanded to include the other elections that are also held. The Congregation also approves the Synod Assembly delegates and Nominating Committee members at the annual meeting.

Unfortunately, there are times when Synod Assembly delegates or Nominating Committee members are not able to serve. The proposed revisions state who will have responsibility if this should happen. The Senior Pastor will have the authority to appoint substitute Synod Assembly delegates. The Council shall have authority to appoint the substitutes for the Nominating Committee.

Paragraph 3.1 - Congregation Council Election

At Congregational meetings, members have asked if it's necessary to submit a written ballot when the number of candidates equals the number of positions open. This revision allows the Congregational members to vote through affirmation rather than fill out a ballot.

Paragraph 3.3 – Council Member Term

The required skills for the Treasurer position are specialized. The revision allows an additional year for the Treasurer to serve in the event that a qualified candidate cannot be identified at the end of the Treasurer's term.

Paragraph 3.6 – Duties of Council Members

The list of duties has been updated to more reflect the current duties.

Paragraph 3.8 – Other Council Representation

The language of this paragraph was updated to provide more specifics on having youth representation on Council. A sentence which provides for including elected presidents of other RLC Organizations and/or chairpersons of committees is being removed as this appears to not be needed.

Paragraph 3.9 - Pastors' have voice without vote

Council thought that language should be specifically stated that RLC Pastors have voice without vote as this seems to be asked fairly often.

Paragraph 5 – OFFICERS

The proposed new language provides for the upcoming new Council members to vote on the Officer's Positions. The Officer Positions are filled prior to the start of their term.

Clarification that a written ballot is not needed if there is only one candidate for an Officer position has been added.

Paragraph 5.4 Treasurer

The Treasurer's responsibilities have changed over the years with becoming a large church. The proposed language more reflects what the responsibilities are.

Paragraph 5.5 – Executive Committee

With currently having 4 Pastors and a Deacon on staff, clarification is needed that only the Senior and Executive Pastors are on the Executive Committee.