

## SUMMARY OF PROPOSED BYLAWS REVISIONS

- At the recommendation of our District, “boards” has been replaced with “teams”.
- Verbiage changed to emphasize membership over congregation.

### **ARTICLE 1 - GOVERNANCE (title changed from *The Congregation*)**

Article 1.C.6 - To align with the EFCA definition of congregationalism, membership will determine new members by vote (elder recommendation, membership vote of approval)

### **ARTICLE 2 – MEMBERSHIP**

- A. Requirements
  - Confession of faith was added to qualification of membership
  - Moved Statement of Faith and Membership Covenant to appendices
  - Added Resolution on Biblical Sexuality and the Covenant of Marriage
- B. Responsibilities
  - Added Scripture references to all responsibilities (except #6)
  - Added #6 – affirmation of the requirements set forth for membership in Article 1.
- C. Installation
  - Revised to match current practice, including attendance of membership classes
  - Added a minimum age requirement

### **ARTICLE 3 - MEMBERSHIP MEETINGS (new section)**

- **Emergency Meetings (E)** added to address situations like a pandemic.
- **Quorum (G)** was added per standard practice according to the District.

### **ARTICLE 4 – CHURCH OFFICERS**

- Term Limits (A) adjusted per outside counsel (increase from 2 to 3 of 2-year terms)
- Powers & Authority (B) has a new sentence regarding corporate authority of the Elder Team
- Separated elected corporate officers from officers appointed by the Elder Team.
- For clarity, changed the office of “Church Secretary” to “Recording Secretary”.
- Financial duties now align with the Financial Processes & Procedures manual (current practice).

### **ARTICLE 5 - ELDER TEAM**

- **OVERVIEW (A)** adds “No less than 6 men”, which allows for growth of the team and may include associate pastors at the discretion of the Elder Team.
- **RESPONSIBILITIES (C)** is updated to align with current practice.
- **INSTALLATION (D)** is a new addition to address how elders are elected.

### **ARTICLE 7 - CHURCH STAFF (new section)**

- Spells out requirements and accountability for church staff members
- Differentiates requirements for associate pastor position