

2021 Proposed Bylaws Amendments

All changes indicated in bold. Additions are underlined.

Deletions are stricken.

1. ARTICLE IV MEMBERSHIP

Section 2. New Membership

Any person, at least sixteen (16) years of age, or who has completed the Fellowship's "Coming of Age" program, may become a member of this Fellowship by declaring themselves in accord with the purpose and mission of the Fellowship and signing the membership book or another board designated method. The Governing Board may grant an exception to the age requirement.

2. ARTICLE IV MEMBERSHIP

Section 3. Requirements for Continued Membership

Any member who has made a financial contribution ~~of record~~ to the operating fund in the previous two (2) years shall remain a member of this Fellowship. This requirement can be waived by a minister.

3. ARTICLE IV MEMBERSHIP

Section 5. Cessation of Membership

Any member who has neither made a financial contribution ~~of record~~ to the operating fund nor has been otherwise active in the life of the Fellowship for the previous two (2) years may be removed from the membership rolls. Member who cannot be located may also be removed. Reasonable efforts shall be made to contact members prior to removal. The Governing Board, following consultation with a minister, may terminate membership by two-thirds vote if the member's actions are harmful or threatening to the Fellowship. A member whose membership was terminated may appeal to the Governing Board for reconsideration. The Governing Board may decline a new membership within eight (8) weeks after the membership book is signed.

4. ARTICLE VII CONGREGATIONAL AUTHORITY

Section 2. Annual Meetings

The Annual Meeting of the Fellowship shall be held at a date, time and place or format, including virtual, determined by the Governing Board. The business of the Annual Meeting shall include election of officers and members-at-large of the Governing Board, election of any committee specified by bylaws, approval of the budget for the next fiscal year, reports of committees and staff, and any other business that may need to be conducted.

5. ARTICLE VII CONGREGATIONAL AUTHORITY

Section 6. Voting - A

- A. Elections shall be by ~~secret~~ **anonymous** ballot **(physical or virtual)** unless the membership ~~calls for a voice vote~~ votes to approve an alternate method.

6. ARTICLE VII CONGREGATIONAL AUTHORITY

Section 6. Voting- C

- C. If there are more than two (2) candidates nominated for any position on the Governing Board the **anonymous** ballot **(physical or virtual)** shall be designated to permit the designation of first, second, third, etc., choice. If no candidate receives a majority of the first-choice votes cast, the candidate receiving the lowest first-choice vote shall be eliminated and each of the ballots cast for such candidate shall be redistributed in accordance with the second choice indicated and thereon. The process shall be repeated until one candidate receives a majority of all votes cast or until only two (2) candidates remain, at which time the one receiving the greater number of votes is elected.

7. ARTICLE VII CONGREGATIONAL AUTHORITY

Section 7. Proxies and Absentee Ballots

Members may request an absentee ballot from the Secretary if they are unable to attend a congregational meeting. The **anonymous** ballots **(physical or virtual)** must be received at the Fellowship prior to the start of the meeting. However, absentee ballots will not be included in the official count to establish a quorum. Absentee ballots on a resolution will be included only if the resolution is not amended. Members' names will not appear on the ballots. Proxies are not allowed.

8. ARTICLE VIII GOVERNING BOARD: AUTHORITY AND RESPONSIBILITIES

Section 2. Responsibilities -A

- A. The Governing Board shall be responsible for the health of the entire Fellowship. To this end, the Governing Board shall:

11. Approve the use of any of the funds in the Endowment Mission Account.

9. ARTICLE X COMMITTEES

Section 3. Audit Committee-B

- B. The Audit Committee will perform a review of Fellowship financial records and tests of internal controls within **two months of the close of the quarter** ~~one month of the end of the first, second, third quarters of each fiscal year~~ and prepare a review of the **fourth quarter and** year-end financial records within two months of the close of the fiscal year.