

Gloria Dei Lutheran Church Congregational Council Resolution:

A resolution to recommend approval of the proposed new Constitution, Bylaws, and Continuing Resolutions to the Congregation of Gloria Dei Lutheran Church:

Whereas the Congregational Council determined in Spring 2015 that due to the many changes in the size and scope of Gloria Dei's mission, and in accordance with our discernment of God's future calling on Gloria Dei, that it would be in the best interests of the Congregation to update our Constitution and Bylaws to align them with methods of ministry that we have discerned will best fulfill the current and future mission of Gloria Dei;

And whereas the Council set up a committee of the Council that we call the AMMT (Aligning Ministry for Mission Team) and determined that in order to update the Constitution we would be required by the ELCA to adopt the latest ELCA Model Constitution;

And whereas the ELCA strongly recommends that when incorporating the new Model Constitution, a congregation should also incorporate its Bylaws into the same document, albeit continue to identify them as Bylaws;

And whereas the AMMT discerned that the congregation would be better served if some of the current Bylaws and some new tenets were expressed as Continuing Resolutions, especially in the case of details regarding the operation of the new ministry teams that the Council is creating to replace the current Board structure;

And whereas the AMMT, praying for God's divine guidance, met numerous times throughout the spring, summer and fall of 2015 to work on this combined document, bringing forward a lot of language from the previous Constitution and Bylaws, adopting new language from the ELCA Model Constitution as required, also making some minor and some significant changes, mostly as deemed necessary to better align Gloria Dei's ministry structure to its mission, and has now completed its work and submitted it to the Congregational Council,

And further whereas the Council has reviewed the AMMT's draft, found it to be comprehensive and representative of the Council's wishes, and has now made a couple of minor changes to the AMMT's draft,

Therefore be it resolved:

That the Congregational Council gives their approval, and recommends adoption by the Congregation of this latest draft of the Constitution, Bylaws, and Continuing Resolution Combined Document, dated 12/17/ 2015.

And be it further resolved that the new draft be presented for approval by the Congregation at the Annual Meeting of the Congregation scheduled for January 31, 2016, noting that adoption of the Constitution will not take place until there is a 2/3 vote of ratification at the next Annual Meeting in early 2017, however, Bylaws and Continuing Resolutions can be adopted and put into effect at the January 31, 2016 meeting by a majority vote;

And be it further resolved that the congregation be notified by mail, no later than January 1, 2016, that this approval will be brought forth for a vote of approval at the upcoming Annual Meeting of the Congregation, and that also no later than this date we make this draft available to all members who would like a paper or electronic copy. The notification should include that this new document replaces the current Constitution and Bylaws. Paper or electronic copies of those documents should also be provided to anyone that would like them.