

Continuing Resolution Authorizing and Describing Ministries, Committees, and Organizations

August, 15,2002

Organizations Authorized in the Constitution and Bylaws

Executive Committee

Responsibilities are described in the Constitution and Bylaws.

Audit Committee

Responsibilities are described in the Constitution.

Call Committee

Responsibilities are described in the Constitution.

Finance Committee

Oversees all the financial affairs of the congregation to make sure that they are being conducted efficiently. It shall prepare a draft budget for the succeeding year, including this congregation's full share in support of the wider ministry being carried out by the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America. It shall, subject to the approval of the congregation council, be responsible for the congregation's investments, provide for annual audits of the accounts of the treasurer, the congregation school, and other congregation organizations. It shall maintain and keep current on any insurance needs. Membership is described in the Bylaws.

Mutual Ministry Team

The overall purpose of the committee is to support the ordained and lay staff and establish an environment that will encourage them to optimize their teamwork and service to the congregation and to each other.

To achieve this objective, the team will:

1. Provide and update staff job descriptions
2. Evaluate staff performance
3. Provide feedback that will encourage continuous improvement
4. Monitor this improvement, and
5. Provide training as needed to improve effectiveness

In addition, the team will provide salary recommendations to the Congregation Council.

Members of the team shall be:

All Pastors

Congregation President

Three to five other members of the congregation appointed by the Pastors and President. At least two of these persons shall be non-council members

Additional people may be invited to attend meetings as deemed necessary by the President and Senior Pastor.

Revised January 5, 2008

Standing Ministries and Committees

The following standing ministries and committees are authorized.

Council Nominating Committee

The Nominating Committee shall assemble a slate of qualified Congregational Council nominees and present it to the council at the November meeting for approval.

The Nominating Committee is comprised of five voting members. Two members shall be from the Congregation Council and three members from the congregation. Interested council members will be chosen by a draw. An interested congregation member shall submit his/her name. When all names have been submitted, three names shall be drawn.

Members of the Nominating Committee may not serve on this committee for more than two consecutive years, nor may they be nominated for Council. The Council President may not be a member of the Nominating Committee, but may be invited to attend as an advisor. Members of the Nominating Committee are to follow the guidelines established for the Committee.

The Council President is responsible for advising the Nominating Committee, ensuring it meets, and completes this work in time.

Endowment Fund

The Messiah Evangelical Lutheran Church (MELC) Endowment Fund, is established for the long term needs of the church. It provides members and friends the opportunity to make bequests and charitable gifts for the purpose of serving God. This will allow the Endowment Fund to become a living memorial and provide ongoing financial support to MELC. The Endowment Fund is intended to be used primarily for special needs/goals of MELC, but may also be used for enhancing the general support given by the congregation through the annual stewardship process. The Endowment Fund is run by a board of trustees that are elected to 3 year terms. There is an Endowment fund charter available for further information.

Building Use Scheduling

Business Use Scheduling is the official representative of the council in dealing with groups or individuals desiring to use church facilities. It is responsible for scheduling the use of the facilities by internal or external groups.

Christian Education

Provides leadership to the conduct and promotion of the school(s) and the educational activities of all organizations within the congregation. Maintains Sunday School, Youth, Adult Ed., Library, programs and tallies and maintain supplies. Keep tabs on future needs, i.e. enrollments, space, equipment, etc.

Communications

Provides a consistent set of guidelines to facilitate communications both to the congregation and the community. This is done so that our church may be able to Reach Out with the gospel of Jesus Christ, Inspire God's people to become disciples, and to Equip them with a faith that works in daily life.

Communications ministry will continue to have a strong tie-in with other ministries, especially Evangelism and will act upon requests from other ministries for communication ideas, etc.

Evangelism/In Reach

Provides leadership in endeavors to reach others with the Gospel and attract them to Christ's Church. Develops programs that reach out into the community and share the Gospel of Jesus Christ. Encourage new people to join with us in worshipping and in learning and sharing the Gospel of Jesus Christ.

Works with Stewardship, and Youth & Family ministries to develop programs that reach out to members of the congregation and draw them into more active participation; programs and activities that give them more opportunities to participate in the life of the congregation and be heard. Liaison to the Shepherd group.

Inter-Ministry Liaison

Facilitates, as required, the overlaps between ministries and encourages their cooperation, with e.g., space, dates, by observing calendars and occasionally attending ministry meetings.

Moving Forward

Provides leadership and guidance in establishing three to five year goals and objectives for the congregation. An envisioning ministry to review and study input from members of their wishes and desires for Messiah (short and long term).

Property

Monitors and implements the proper maintenance and protection of all property of the congregation, and insures that the same is kept in good repair. Maintain an active group to look after maintenance and improvements of facilities (buildings & grounds)

Social Ministry

Identifies persons or groups with specific needs and assists them where spiritually appropriate and financially feasible in meeting their needs and objectives. Service to such individuals or groups can be at the immediate, local and/or worldwide level. Emphasis is placed on caring, teaching, healing and growth in the church's relationship with others.

Stewardship

Provides leadership in the expression of Christian faith in daily living, provide information about the congregation's local, national and worldwide ministries, and stimulate its members to higher levels of proportionate giving for the Lord's work.

Worship & Music

Provides guidance in the conduct of the services of God's house and supports Messiah's Director of Music Ministry.

Youth & Family Ministries

Coordinates and schedules congregational activities, enhance communications among groups and encourage more volunteering and participation in church programs. Nurtures existing fellowship groups (e.g. MLW) and promote the continuous formation of new groups (e.g. a men's group and fellowship groups involving newer members).

Special Interest Groups

The following special interest groups are authorized.

Computer

Friendship Circle

J.O.Y. Group (age 50+)

Library

Merry Messiah Members

Messiah Lutheran Women

Shepherds

S.O.L.O. (Survivors of Loved Ones)
Youth Committee