

### Faith Lutheran Church By-Laws Change

On March 31, 2020 the Faith Lutheran Church Council unanimously voted to approve amending the church constitution and bylaws to

1. Extend one additional term for the president, vice president, secretary, treasurer, assistant financial secretary & financial secretary and extend unlimited terms to all other council committee members. Any officer or committee member who wishes to extend their term must be reelected by the congregation.
2. Amend a discrepancy between the constitution and the by-laws for future voting.

What does this mean to the congregation?

- Faith has continued to struggle to fill open church committee and officer positions. Some positions are vacant because serving officers must step down due to term limits. Adding an additional term as an option along with requiring a reelection of officers allows those who are willing to serve the ability to serve with the input and approval of the congregation.
- At present, church officers may only serve one two-year term. This change will allow officers to serve another successive term provided they are elected by the congregation for that term.
- At present, council committee members may serve up to two terms and then must step off their committee for at least one year. This will allow continuous service by those who are willing to serve with the approval of the congregation.
- There is a discrepancy between the constitution and the by-laws regarding votes to be taken by the congregation to amend by-laws and the constitution. This discrepancy provides guidelines for amending the by-laws that then refers to other more stringent guidelines meant for amending the constitution. The end result will be present guidelines will remain for any constitutional amendments while a clearer process will exist for any future by-law amendments.

**In accordance with the Constitution & By-Laws of Faith Lutheran Church of Allouez Constitution Article XII Sections B 2 & 3 and By-Laws Article VIII the members of Faith Lutheran Church will be asked to vote on these changes at a meeting to be convened no less than 90 days from this announcement. The date of this meeting has not been set as of this notice.**

#### Change #1: TERM LIMITS

#### ARTICLE V. NOMINATION AND ELECTION OF OFFICERS (SUBSECTION B 1-3)

##### Present By-Laws

1. President, Vice President, the Secretary and the Treasurer of the congregation are elected for a period of two years and shall not succeed themselves in office.
2. The Financial Secretaries of the congregation are elected for a term of two years serving the first year as Assistant Financial Secretary and the second year as Financial Secretary, not able to succeed themselves in office.
3. Members of the Board of Elders, Missions and Evangelism, Education, Fellowship and Stewardship shall be elected for three years. Board members shall be able to succeed themselves in office, one term.

### **Proposed By-Laws**

1. President, Vice President, the Secretary and the Treasurer of the congregation are elected for a period of two years and may succeed themselves in office for one term if reelected by the congregation.
2. The Financial Secretaries of the congregation are elected for a term of two years serving the first year as Assistant Financial Secretary and the second year as Financial Secretary and may succeed themselves in office for one term if reelected by the congregation.
3. Members of the Board of Elders, Missions and Evangelism, Education, Fellowship and Stewardship shall be elected for three years. Board members shall be able to succeed themselves in office for unlimited terms provided they are reelected by the congregation.

### **Change #2: AMENDING BY-LAWS**

#### **Present Amendments for Changing Constitution & By-Laws**

**BY-LAWS ARTICLE VIII. AMENDMENTS:** These By-Laws may be amended in a properly convened meeting of the Voter's Assembly by a majority of all voting members present per ARTICLE XII provided the proposed change has been announced and posted for review by the voting members at least one week prior to the meeting in which the amendment is voted upon.

**CONSTITUTION ARTICLE XII. CHANGING THE CONSTITUTION & BY-LAWS (B2-3):** Amendments and changes to this Constitution & By-Laws may be adopted at a regular Voters' Assembly, provided:

1. That they do not conflict with the provisions laid down in Article III or with any other Article that pertains to a Scriptural doctrine and practice.
2. That the proposed amendment has been submitted in writing to the congregation 90 days prior to the Voters' Assembly meeting at which the proposed amendment will be acted upon.
3. That an affirmative vote of two thirds majority of the voters present is secured.

#### **Proposed Amendments for Changing Constitution & By-Laws**

**BY-LAWS ARTICLE VIII. AMENDMENTS:** These By-Laws may be amended in a properly convened meeting of the Voter's Assembly by a majority of all voting members present provided the proposed change has been announced and posted for review by the voting members at least one week prior to the meeting in which the amendment is voted upon.

**CONSTITUTION ARTICLE XII. CHANGING THE CONSTITUTION (B2-3):** Amendments and changes to this Constitution may be adopted at a regular Voters' Assembly, provided:

1. That they do not conflict with the provisions laid down in Article III or with any other Article that pertains to a Scriptural doctrine and practice.
2. That the proposed amendment has been submitted in writing to the congregation 90 days prior to the Voters' Assembly meeting at which the proposed amendment will be acted upon.
3. That an affirmative vote of two thirds majority of the voters present is secured.