CONSTITUTION,
AMENDMENTS, BYLAWS,
AND CONTINUING RESOLUTIONS
OF
ST. PAUL LUTHERAN CHURCH
STILLWATER, MINNESOTA

Approved at the November 17, 2026 Council Meeting

[Approved at the _____, 2026 Special Congregation Meeting]

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HISTORICAL TRACKING OF REVISIONS

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CONSTITUTION, AMENDMENTS, BYLAWS, AND CONTINUING RESOLUTIONS OF ST. PAUL LUTHERAN CHURCH IN STILLWATER, MINNESOTA

*PREAMBLE

We, baptized members of the Church of Christ, responding in faith to the call of the Holy Spirit through the Gospel, desiring to unite together to preach the Word, administer the sacraments, and carry out God's mission, do hereby adopt this constitution and solemnly pledge ourselves to be governed by its provisions. In the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

Chapter 1.
NAME AND INCORPORATION

C1.01. The name of this congregation shall be St. Paul Lutheran Church of Stillwater Minnesota

C1.02. For the purpose of this constitution and the accompanying bylaws, the congregation of St. Paul Lutheran Church is hereinafter designated as "this congregation."

C1.11. This congregation shall be incorporated under the laws of the State of Minnesota.

Chapter 2.
CONFESSION OF FAITH

***C2.01.** This congregation confesses the Triune God, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.

***C2.02.** This congregation confesses Jesus Christ as Lord and Savior and the Gospel as the power of God for the salvation of all who believe.

a. Jesus Christ is the Word of God incarnate, through whom everything was made and through whose life, death, and resurrection God fashions a new creation.
b. The proclamation of God's message to us as both Law and Gospel is the Word of God, revealing judgment and mercy through word and deed, beginning with the Word in creation, continuing in the history of Israel, and centering in all its fullness in the person and work of Jesus Christ.
c. The canonical Scriptures of the Old and New Testaments are the written Word of God. Inspired by God's Spirit speaking through their authors, they record and announce God's revelation centering in Jesus Christ. Through them God's Spirit speaks to us to create and sustain Christian faith and fellowship for service in the world.

***C2.03.** This congregation accepts the canonical Scriptures of the Old and New Testaments as the inspired Word of God and the authoritative source and norm of its proclamation, faith, and life.

***C2.04.** This congregation accepts the Apostles', Nicene, and Athanasian Creeds as true declarations of the faith of this congregation.

***C2.05.** This congregation accepts the Unaltered Augsburg Confession as a true witness to the Gospel, acknowledging as one with it in faith and doctrine all churches that likewise accept the teachings of the Unaltered Augsburg Confession.

***C2.06.** This congregation accepts the other confessional writings in the Book of Concord, namely, the Apology of the Augsburg Confession, the Smalcald Articles and the Treatise, the Small Catechism, the Large Catechism, and the Formula of Concord, as further valid interpretations of the faith of the Church.

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* Required provision from the Model Constitution for Congregations of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America.

***C2.07.** This congregation confesses the Gospel, recorded in the Holy Scripture and confessed in the ecumenical creeds and Lutheran confessional writings, as the power of God to create and sustain the Church for God's mission in the world.

Chapter 3.
NATURE OF THE CHURCH

***C3.01.** All power in the Church belongs to our Lord Jesus Christ, its head. All actions of this congregation are to be carried out under his rule and authority.

***C3.02.** This church confesses the one, holy, catholic, and apostolic Church and is resolved to serve Christian unity throughout the world.

***C3.03.** The Church exists both as an inclusive fellowship and as local congregations gathered for worship and Christian service. Congregations find their fulfillment in the universal community of the Church, and the universal Church exists in and through congregations. The Evangelical Lutheran Church in America, therefore, derives its character and powers both from the sanction and representation of its congregations and from its inherent nature as an expression of the broader fellowship of the faithful. In length, it acknowledges itself to be in the historic continuity of the communion of saints; in breadth, it expresses the fellowship of believers and congregations in our day.

***C3.04.** This church, inspired and led by the Holy Spirit, participates in The Lutheran World Federation as a global communion of churches, engaging in faithful witness to the gospel of Jesus Christ and in service for the sake of God's mission in the world.

***C3.05.** The name Evangelical Lutheran Church in America (ELCA or "this church") as used herein refers in general references to this whole church, including its three expressions: congregations, synods, and the churchwide organization. The name Evangelical Lutheran Church in America is also the name of the corporation of the churchwide organization to which specific references may be made herein

Chapter 4.
STATEMENT OF PURPOSE

***C4.01.** The Church is a people created by God in Christ, empowered by the Holy Spirit, called and sent to bear witness to God's creative, redeeming, and sanctifying activity in the world.

***C4.02.** To participate in God's mission, this congregation as a part of the Church shall:

a. Worship God in proclamation of the Word and administration of the sacraments and through lives of prayer, praise, thanksgiving, witness, and service.
b. Proclaim God's saving Gospel of justification by grace for Christ's sake through faith alone, according to the apostolic witness in the Holy Scripture, preserving and transmitting the Gospel faithfully to future generations.
c. Carry out Christ's Great Commission by reaching out to all people to bring them to faith in Christ and by doing all ministry with a global awareness consistent with the understanding of God as Creator, Redeemer, and Sanctifier of all.
d. Serve in response to God's love to meet human needs, caring for the sick and the aged, advocating dignity, justice and equity for all people, working for peace and reconciliation among the nations, caring for the marginalized, embracing and welcoming racially and ethnically diverse populations, and standing in solidarity with the poor and oppressed and committing itself to their needs.
e. Nurture its members in the Word of God so as to grow in faith and hope and love, to see daily life as the primary setting for the exercise of their Christian calling, and to use the gifts of the Spirit for their life together and for their calling in the world.

f. Manifest the unity given to the people of God by living together in the love of Christ and by joining with other Christians in prayer and action to express and preserve the unity which the Spirit gives.

***C4.03.** To fulfill these purposes, this congregation shall:

a. Provide services of worship at which the Word of God is preached and the sacraments are administered.
b. Provide pastoral care and assist all members to participate in this ministry.
c. Challenge, equip, and support all members in carrying out their calling in their daily lives and in their congregation.
d. Teach the Word of God.
e. Witness to the reconciling Word of God in Christ, reaching out to all people.
f. Respond to human need, work for justice and peace, care for the sick and the suffering, and participate responsibly in society.
g. Motivate its members to provide financial support for this congregation's ministry and the ministry of the other expressions of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America.
h. Foster and participate in interdependent relationships with other congregations, the synod, and the churchwide organization of The Evangelical Lutheran Church in America.
i. Foster and participate in ecumenical relationships consistent with churchwide policy.

C4.03.01. Participation in Holy Communion shall be open to all Christians.

C4.03.02. Preparation for Holy Communion will be provided for any person requesting it. Children may participate in Holy Communion upon consultation with the pastor.

***C4.04.** This congregation shall develop an organizational structure to be described in the bylaws. The Congregation Council shall prepare descriptions of the responsibilities of each committee, task force, or other organizational group and shall review their actions. Such descriptions shall be contained in continuing resolutions in the section on the Congregation Committees.

***C4.05.** This congregation shall adopt and periodically review a mission statement which will provide specific direction for its programs.

C4.05.A27. Our Vision: Love and serve God by walking with, caring for, and learning from our members, friends, and neighbors.

C4.05.B27. Our Values:

a. Welcome: We affirm everyone's presence, whether they have been here their whole lives or are just getting settled. All of our gatherings and events have a "come as you are" feeling and welcome members, regular attendees, friends, neighbors, and visitors.
b. Generosity: We are eager to collaborate and partner with other churches and organizations, whether through acts of service or opening up our building to the community. From the "South Hill" of historic Stillwater, we have been caring for our neighbors, community, and out into the world since first welcoming German immigrants over 150 years ago.
c. Faithfulness: Our Sunday morning gatherings for worship are at the heart of our life together. We open our doors to everyone, especially those who appreciate inter-generational worship, a meaningful variety of music, solid preaching, and a weekly celebration of the communion meal.

***C4.06.** References herein to the nature of the relationship between the three expressions of this church—congregations, synods, and the churchwide organization—as being interdependent or as being in a partnership relationship describe the mutual responsibility of these expressions in God's mission and the fulfillment of the purposes of this church as described in this chapter, and do not imply or describe the creation of partnerships, co-ventures, agencies, or other legal relationships recognized in civil law.

Chapter 5.
POWERS OF THE CONGREGATION

***C5.01.** The powers of this congregation are those necessary to fulfill its purpose.

***C5.02.** The powers of this congregation are vested in the Congregation Meeting called and conducted as provided in this constitution and bylaws.

***C5.03.** Only such authority as is delegated to the Congregation Council or other organizational units in this congregation's governing documents is recognized. All remaining authority is retained by this congregation. This congregation is authorized to:

a. call a pastor as provided in Chapter 9;
b. terminate the call of a pastor as provided in Chapter 9;
c. call a minister of Word and Service;
d. terminate the call of a minister of Word and Service in conformity with the constitution of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America;
e. adopt amendments to the constitution, as provided in Chapter 16, amendments to the bylaws, as specified in Chapter 17, and continuing resolutions, as provided in Chapter 18;
f. approve the annual budget;
g. acquire real and personal property by gift, devise, purchase, or other lawful means;
h. hold title to and use its property for any and all activities consistent with its purpose;
i. sell, mortgage, lease, transfer, or otherwise dispose of its property by any lawful means;
j. elect its officers, and Congregation Council, and require them to carry out their duties in accordance with the constitution, bylaws, and continuing resolutions; and
k. terminate its relationship with the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America as provided in Chapter 6.

***C5.04.** This congregation or the Congregation Council shall elect from among the voting members of the congregation laypersons to serve as voting members of the Synod Assembly as well as persons to represent it at meetings of any conference, cluster, coalition, or other area subdivision of which it is a member. The number of persons to be elected and other qualifications shall be as prescribed in guidelines established by the St. Paul Area Synod of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America.

C5.05. This congregation shall have a mission endowment fund that will operate as specified in this congregation's continuing resolutions. The purpose of the mission endowment fund is to provide for mission work beyond the operational budget of this congregation.

Chapter 6.
CHURCH AFFILIATION

***C6.01.** This congregation shall be an interdependent part of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America or its successor, and of the St. Paul Area Synod of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America. This congregation is subject to the discipline of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America.

***C6.02.** This congregation accepts the Confession of Faith and agrees to the purposes of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America and shall act in accordance with them.

***C6.03.** This congregation acknowledges its relationship with the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America in which:

a. This congregation agrees to be responsible for its life as a Christian community.
b. This congregation pledges its financial support and participation in the life and mission of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America.
c. This congregation agrees to call pastoral leadership from the roster of Ministers of Word and Sacrament of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America in accordance with its call

procedures except in special circumstances and with the approval of the bishop of the synod. These special circumstances are limited either to calling a candidate approved for the roster of Ministers of Word and Sacrament of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America or to contracting for pastoral services with a minister of Word and Sacrament of a church body with which the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America officially has established a relationship of full communion.

d. This congregation agrees to consider ministers of Word and Service for call to other staff positions in this congregation according to the procedures of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America.
e. This congregation agrees to file this constitution and any subsequent changes to this constitution with the synod for review to ascertain that all of its provisions are in agreement with the constitution and bylaws of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America and with the constitution of the synod.

***C6.04.** Affiliation with the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America is terminated as follows:

a. This congregation takes action to dissolve.
b. This congregation ceases to exist.
c. This congregation is removed from membership in the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America according to the procedures for discipline of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America or in accordance with provision 9.23. of the constitution and bylaws of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America.
d. The St. Paul Area Synod takes charge and control of the property of this congregation to hold, manage, and convey the same on behalf of the synod pursuant to †S13.24. of the synod constitution. This congregation shall have the right to appeal the decision to the next Synod Assembly.
e. This congregation follows the procedures outlined in *C6.05.

***C6.05.** This congregation may terminate its relationship with the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America by the following procedure:

a. A resolution indicating the intent to terminate its relationship must be adopted at two legally called and conducted special meetings of this congregation by a two-thirds vote of the voting members present at each meeting. The first such meeting may be held no sooner than 30 days after written notice of the meeting is received by the bishop of the synod, during which time this congregation shall consult with the bishop and the bishop's designees, if any. The times and manner of the consultation shall be determined by the bishop in consultation with the Congregation Council. Unless the bishop and/or the bishop's designees are voting members of this congregation, they shall have voice but not vote at the first meeting.
b. Within 10 days after the resolution has been voted upon at the first meeting, the secretary of this congregation shall submit a copy of the resolution to the bishop, attesting that the special meeting was legally called and conducted and certifying the outcome of the vote, and shall send copies of the resolution and certification to voting members of this congregation.
c. If the resolution was adopted by a two-thirds vote of the voting members present at the first meeting, the bishop of the synod and this congregation shall continue in consultation, as specified in paragraph a. above, during a period of at least 90 days after receipt by the bishop of the attestation and certification as specified in paragraph b. above.
d. If this congregation, after such consultation, is still considering termination of its relationship with this church, such action may be taken at a legally called and conducted special meeting by a two-thirds vote of the voting members present. Notice of the second meeting shall be sent to all voting members and to the bishop at least 10 days in advance

of the meeting. Unless the bishop and/or the bishop's designees are voting members of this congregation, they shall have voice but not vote at the second meeting.

e. Within 10 days after the resolution has been voted upon, the secretary of this congregation shall submit a copy of the resolution to the bishop, attesting that the second special meeting was legally called and conducted and certifying the outcome of the vote, and shall send copies of the resolution and certification to the voting members of the congregation. If the resolution was adopted by a two-thirds vote of the voting members present at the second meeting, the relationship between the congregation and this church shall be terminated subject to Synod Council approval as required by paragraphs f. and g. below.

f. Unless this notification to the bishop also certifies that this congregation has voted to affiliate with another Lutheran denomination, this congregation shall be deemed an independent or non-Lutheran church, in which case *C7.04. shall apply.

g. This congregation shall abide by these covenants by and among the three expressions of this church:

   1) Congregations seeking to terminate their relationship with this church which fail or refuse to comply with each of the foregoing provisions in *C6.05. shall be required to receive Synod Council approval before terminating their membership in this church.
   2) Congregations which had been members of the Lutheran Church in America shall be required, in addition to complying with the foregoing provisions in *C6.05., to receive synod approval before terminating their membership in this church.
   3) Congregations established by the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America shall be required, in addition to complying with the foregoing provisions in *C6.05., to satisfy all financial obligations to this church and receive Synod Council approval before terminating their membership in this church.

h. If this congregation fails to achieve the required two-thirds vote of voting members present at this congregation's first meeting as specified in paragraph a. above or fails to achieve the required two-thirds vote of voting members present at this congregation's second meeting as specified in paragraph d. above, another attempt to consider termination of relationship with this church must follow all requirements of *C6.05. and may begin no sooner than six months after the meeting at which the two-thirds vote was not achieved.

***C6.06.** If this congregation considers relocation, it shall confer with the bishop of the synod in which it is territorially located and the appropriate unit of the churchwide organization before any steps are taken leading to such action. The approval of the Synod Council shall be received before any such action is taken.

***C6.07.** If this congregation considers developing an additional site to be used regularly for worship, it shall confer with the bishop of the synod in which it is territorially located and the appropriate unit of the churchwide organization before any steps are taken leading to such action.

Chapter 7.
PROPERTY OWNERSHIP

***C7.01.** If this congregation ceases to exist, title to undisposed property shall pass to the St. Paul Area Synod of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America.

***C7.02.** If this congregation is removed from membership in the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America according to its procedure for discipline or pursuant to 9.23. of the constitution and bylaws of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America, title to property shall continue to reside in this congregation.

***C7.03.** If the voting members of this congregation present at a legally called and conducted special meeting of this congregation vote to relate to another Lutheran church body, title to property shall continue to reside in this congregation, provided the process for termination of relationship in *C6.05. has been followed. Before this congregation takes action to relate to another Lutheran church body, it shall consult with representatives of the St. Paul Area Synod.

***C7.04.** If the voting members of this congregation present at a legally called and conducted special meeting of this congregation vote to become independent or relate to a non-Lutheran church body and have followed the process for termination of relationship in *C6.05., title to property of this congregation shall continue to reside in this congregation only with the consent of the Synod Council. The Synod Council, after consultation with this congregation by the process established by the synod, may give approval to the request to become independent or to relate to a non-Lutheran church body, in which case title shall remain with the majority of this congregation. If the Synod Council fails to give such approval, title shall remain with those members who desire to continue as a congregation of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America. In neither case does title to this congregation's property transfer to the synod.

***C7.05.** Notwithstanding the provisions of *C7.02. and *C7.03. above, where this congregation has received property from the synod pursuant to a deed or other instrument containing restrictions under provision 9.71.a. of the *Constitution, Bylaws, and Continuing Resolutions of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America*, this congregation accepts such restrictions and:

a. Shall not transfer, encumber, mortgage, or in any way burden or impair any right, title, or interest in the property without prior approval of the Synod Council.
b. Shall – upon written demand by the Synod Council, pursuant to †S13.23. of the constitution of the St. Paul Area Synod – reconvey and transfer all right, title, and interest in the property to the synod.

Chapter 8.
MEMBERSHIP

***C8.01.** Members of this congregation shall be those baptized persons on the roll of this congregation at the time that this constitution is adopted and those who are admitted thereafter and who have declared and maintain their membership in accordance with the provisions of this constitution and its bylaws.

***C8.02.** Members shall be classified as follows:

a. ***Baptized*** members are those persons who have been received by the Sacrament of Holy Baptism in this congregation, or, having been previously baptized in the name of the Triune God, have been received by certificate of transfer from other Lutheran congregations or by affirmation of faith.
b. ***Confirmed*** members are baptized persons who have been confirmed in this congregation, those who have been received by adult baptism or by transfer as confirmed members from other Lutheran congregations, or baptized persons received by affirmation of faith.
c. ***Voting*** members are confirmed members. Such confirmed members, during the current or preceding calendar year, shall have communed in this congregation and shall have made a contribution of record to this congregation. Members of this congregation who have satisfied these basic standards shall have the privilege of voice and vote at every regular and special meeting of this congregation as well as the other rights and privileges ascribed to voting members by the provisions of this constitution and its bylaws. They shall not have

voted as a seasonal member of another congregation of this church in the previous two calendar months.

d. ***Associate*** members are persons holding membership in other Christian congregations who wish to retain such membership but desire to participate in the life and mission of this congregation. These individuals have all the privileges and duties of membership except voting rights or other rights and privileges ascribed to voting members by the provisions of this constitution and its bylaws.

e. ***Seasonal*** members are voting members of other congregations of this church who wish to retain such membership but desire to participate in the life and mission of this congregation, including exercising limited voting rights in this congregation. The Congregation Council may grant seasonal membership to such persons provided that this congregation is a member of a synod where the Synod Council has approved seasonal member voting on its territory. Such seasonal members shall have all the privileges and duties of voting members except that:

1) they shall not be eligible for elected office in, or for membership on the Congregation Council or on a call committee of, this congregation;
2) they shall not have the right to vote on any matter concerning or affecting the call or termination of call of any minister of this congregation;
3) they shall not have the right to vote on any matter concerning or affecting the affiliation of this congregation with this church;
4) they shall not be eligible to serve as voting members from this congregation of the Synod Assembly or the Churchwide Assembly;
5) they shall not, even if otherwise permitted by this congregation, vote by proxy or by absentee ballot; and
6) they shall not, within any two calendar month period, exercise voting rights in this congregation and in the congregation where they remain voting members.

***C8.03.** All applications for confirmed membership shall be submitted to and shall require the approval of the Congregation Council.

C8.03.01. New members shall be added to the membership rolls following approval of the Congregation Council which will be noted in the minutes of the council meeting. At a later date, these members will be introduced to this congregation during a worship service or via the monthly newsletter.

***C8.04.** It shall be the privilege and duty of members of this congregation to:

a. make regular use of the means of grace, both Word and sacraments;
b. live a Christian life in accordance with the Word of God and the teachings of the Lutheran church; and
c. support the work of this congregation, the synod, and the churchwide organization of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America through contributions of their time, abilities, and financial support as biblical stewards.

C8.04.01. Members of this congregation shall direct the work of evangelism in this congregation, including welcoming and providing information for visitors and new members.

***C8.05.** Membership in this congregation shall be terminated by any of the following:

a. death;
b. resignation;
c. transfer or release;
d. disciplinary action in accordance with Chapter 20 of the constitution and bylaws of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America; or

e. removal from the roll due to inactivity in accordance with the provisions of this constitution and its bylaws. Such persons who have been removed from the roll of members shall remain persons for whom the Church has a continuing pastoral concern.

C8.05.01. Members who have not communed in this congregation or made a contribution of record to this congregation during the current or preceding calendar year will be informed, via mail or electronically, of their membership status and asked to return a questionnaire or reply electronically.

C8.05.02. At a monthly meeting, the Congregation Council; shall approve changing from active to inactive status those members who have not communed or made a financial contribution of record to this congregation in the current or preceding calendar year. Following the council's approval, a letter will be mailed or transmitted electronically to these members informing them of their change of membership status. This letter will also give them an opportunity to reply to the letter. Members serving in the military or attending post-secondary schools are exempt from a change in status.

Chapter 9.
ROSTERED MINISTER

***C9.01.** Authority to call a pastor shall be in this congregation by at least a two-thirds vote of voting members present and voting at a meeting legally called for that purpose. Before a call is issued, the officers, or a committee elected by the Congregation Council to recommend the call, shall seek the advice and help of the bishop of the synod.

***C9.02.** This congregation may call as a pastor only:

a. a member of the roster of Ministers of Word and Sacrament of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America; or

b. a candidate for the roster of Ministers of Word and Sacrament who has been recommended for this congregation by the synod bishop.

***C9.03.** Consistent with the faith and practice of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America,

a. Every minister of Word and Sacrament shall:
   1) preach the Word;
   2) administer the sacraments;
   3) conduct public worship;
   4) provide pastoral care;
   5) seek out and encourage qualified persons to prepare for the ministry of the Gospel;
   6) impart knowledge of this church and its wider ministry through available channels of effective communication;
   7) witness to the Kingdom of God in the community, in the nation, and abroad; and
   8) speak publicly to the world in solidarity with the poor and oppressed, proclaiming God's love for the world, advocating dignity, justice, and equity for all people, working for peace and reconciliation among the nations, caring for the marginalized, and embracing and welcoming racially and ethnically diverse populations.

b. Each pastor with a congregational call shall, within the congregation:
   1) offer instruction, confirm, marry, visit the sick and distressed, and bury the dead;
   2) relate to all schools and organizations of this congregation;
   3) install regularly elected members of the Congregation Council;
   4) with the council, administer discipline;
   5) endeavor to increase the support given by the congregation to the work of the churchwide organization and of the St. Paul Area Synod; and

6) encourage adherence to covenantal relationship with this church as expressed in the *Constitutions, Bylaws, and Continuing Resolutions of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America.*

***C9.04.** The specific duties of the pastor, compensation, and other matters pertaining to the service of the pastor shall be included in a letter of call, which shall be attested by the bishop of the synod.

C9.04.01. The lead pastor shall be a member of all committees and boards of this congregation. They shall have the rights of voice, but not vote, with one exception - as a member of the Executive Committee, they have full rights of voice and vote. They may assign meeting attendance to a designee who is responsible for representing them and reporting proceedings and activities to them.

C9.04.02. The lead pastor shall be the spiritual leader of this congregation, shall be responsible for the day-to-day administration of the church and shall guide and supervise all rostered and lay staff.

***C9.05.** The provisions for termination of the mutual relationship between a minister of Word and Sacrament and this congregation shall be as follows:

a. The call of this congregation, when accepted by a pastor, shall constitute a continuing mutual relationship and commitment, which shall be terminated only by the pastor's death or, following consultation with the synod bishop, for any of the following reasons:
   1) mutual agreement to terminate the call or the completion of a call for a specific term;
   2) resignation of the pastor, which shall become effective, unless otherwise agreed, no later than 30 days after the date on which it was submitted;
   3) inability to conduct the pastoral office effectively in this congregation in view of local conditions;
   4) inability to conduct the pastoral office effectively in view of disability or incapacity of the pastor;
   5) suspension of the pastor through discipline for more than three months;
   6) resignation or removal of the pastor from the roster of Ministers of Word and Sacrament of this church;
   7) termination of the relationship between this church and this congregation;
   8) dissolution of this congregation or the termination of a parish arrangement; or
   9) suspension of this congregation through discipline for more than six months.

b. When allegations of disability or incapacity of the pastor under paragraph a.4) above, or ineffective conduct of the pastoral office under paragraph a.3) above, have come to the attention of the bishop of this synod,
   1) bishop who has sole discretion may investigate such conditions personally together with a committee of two rostered ministers and one layperson, or
   2) when such allegations have been brought to the synod's attention by an official recital of allegations by the Congregation Council or by a petition signed by at least one-third of the voting members of this congregation, the bishop personally shall investigate such conditions together with a committee of two rostered ministers and one layperson

c. In case of alleged disability or incapacity under paragraph a.4) above, the bishop's committee shall obtain and document competent medical opinion concerning the pastor's condition. When a disability or incapacity is evident to the committee, the bishop of this synod may declare the pastorate vacant. When the pastorate is declared vacant, the Synod Council shall list the pastor on the roster of Ministers of Word and Sacrament with disability status. Upon resumption of the ability to conduct the office effectively, the bishop

shall take steps to enable the pastor to resume the ministry, either in the congregation last served or in another appropriate call.

d. In the case of alleged local difficulties that imperil the effective functioning of this congregation under paragraph a.3) above, the bishop's committee shall endeavor to hear from all concerned persons, after which the bishop together with the committee shall present their recommendations first to the pastor and then to this congregation. The recommendations of the bishop's committee must address whether the pastor's call should come to an end and, if so, may suggest appropriate severance arrangements. The committee may also propose other actions that should be undertaken by this congregation and by the pastor, if appropriate. If the pastor and congregation agree to carry out such recommendations, no further action need be taken by the synod.

e. If either party fails to assent to the recommendations of the bishop's committee concerning the pastor's call, this congregation may dismiss the pastor only at a legally called meeting after consultation with the bishop, either (a) by a two-thirds vote of the voting members present and voting where the bishop and the committee did not recommend termination of the call, or (b) by a majority vote of the voting members present and voting where the bishop and the committee recommended termination of the call.

f. If, in the course of proceedings described in paragraph c. or paragraph d. above, the bishop's committee concludes that there may be grounds for discipline, the committee shall make recommendations concerning disciplinary action in accordance with the provisions of this church's constitution, bylaws, and continuing resolutions.

***C9.06.** At a time of pastoral vacancy, an interim pastor may be appointed by the bishop of the synod with the consent of this congregation or the Congregation Council.

***C9.07.** During the period of service, an interim pastor shall have the rights and duties in this congregation of a regularly called pastor and may delegate the same in part to a supply pastor with the consent of the bishop of the synod and this congregation or Congregation Council. The interim pastor and any rostered minister providing assistance shall refrain from exerting influence in the selection of a pastor. Unless previously agreed upon by the Synod Council, an interim pastor is not available for a regular call to the congregation served.

***C9.08.** This congregation shall make satisfactory settlement of all financial obligations to a former pastor before calling a successor. A pastor shall make satisfactory settlement of all financial obligations to this congregation before beginning service in a call to another congregation or employment in another ministry setting.

***C9.09.** When a pastor is called to serve in company with another pastor or pastors, the privileges and responsibilities of each pastor shall be specified in documents to accompany the call and to be drafted in consultation involving the pastors, the Congregation Council, and the bishop of the synod. As occasion requires, the documents may be revised through a similar consultation.

C9.09.01. In the event of the lead pastor's termination or death (see*C9.05.) an associate pastor shall not be considered for the vacant position.

***C9.11.** With the approval of the bishop of the synod, this congregation may depart from *C9.05.a. and call a pastor for a specific term. Details of such calls shall be in writing setting forth the purpose and conditions involved. Prior to the completion of a term, the bishop or a designated representative of the bishop shall meet with the pastor and representatives of this congregation for a review of the call. Such a call may also be terminated before its expiration in accordance with the provisions of *C9.05.a.

***C9.12.** The pastor of this congregation:

a. shall keep accurate records of all baptisms, confirmations, marriages, burials, communicants, members received, members dismissed, or members excluded from this congregation;
b. shall submit a summary of such statistics annually to the synod; and
c. shall become a member of this congregation upon receipt and acceptance of the letter of call. In a parish of multiple congregations, the pastor shall hold membership in one of the congregations.

***C9.13.** The pastor(s) shall submit a report of ministry to the bishop of the synod at least 90 days prior to each regular meeting of the Synod Assembly.

***C9.14.** The records of this congregation shall be maintained by the pastor and shall remain the property of this congregation. The secretary of this congregation shall attest in writing to the bishop of this synod that such records have been placed in the secretary's hands in good order by a departing pastor before the installation of that pastor in another call or approval of a request for change in roster status.

C9.14.01. Whereas the lead pastor is responsible, the actual development, preparation, and preservation of records can be delegated and shall include:
a. Roll of members
b. Records of ministerial acts performed during and prior to the lead pastor's service
c. Minutes of the meetings of this congregation and the Congregation Council
d. Financial records of this congregation
e. Organizational charts of the Congregation Council, staff and Pastor(s)
f. Legal contracts and documents such as mortgages, loans, etc.

***C9.15.** Under special circumstances, subject to the approval of the synod bishop and the concurrence of this congregation, a minister of Word and Sacrament of a church body with which the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America officially has established a relationship of full communion may serve temporarily as pastor of this congregation under a contract between this congregation and the pastor in a form proposed by the synod bishop and approved by this congregation.

***C9.21.** Authority to call a deacon shall be in this congregation by at least a two-thirds vote of voting members present and voting at a meeting legally called for that purpose. Before a call is issued, the officers, or a committee elected by the Congregation Council to recommend the call, shall seek the advice and help of the bishop of the synod.

***C9.22.** This congregation may call as a deacon only:
a. a member of the roster of Ministers of Word and Service of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America; or
b. a candidate for the roster of Ministers of Word and Service who has been recommended for this congregation by the synod bishop.

***C9.23.** Consistent with the faith and practice of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America, every minister of Word and Service shall:
a. Be rooted in the Word of God, for proclamation and service;
b. Advocate a prophetic diakonia that commits itself to risk-taking and innovative service on the frontiers of the Church's outreach, giving particular attention to the suffering places in God's world;
c. Speak publicly to the world in solidarity with the poor and oppressed, proclaiming God's love for the world, advocating dignity, justice, and equity for all people, working for peace and reconciliation among the nations, caring for the marginalized, and embracing and welcoming racially and ethnically diverse populations;
d. Equip the baptized for ministry in God's world that affirms the gifts of all people;

e. Encourage mutual relationships that invite participation and accompaniment of others in God's mission;
f. Practice stewardship that respects God's gift of time, talents, and resources;
g. Be grounded in a gathered community for ongoing diaconal formation;
h. Share knowledge of this church and its wider ministry of the gospel and advocate for the work of all expressions of this church; and
i. Identify and encourage qualified persons to prepare for ministry of the gospel.

***C9.24.** The specific duties of the deacon, compensation, and other matters pertaining to the service of the deacon shall be included in a letter of call, which shall be attested by the bishop of the synod.

***C9.25.** The provisions for termination of the mutual relationship between a minister of Word and Service and this congregation shall be as follows:

a. The call of this congregation, when accepted by a deacon, shall constitute a continuing mutual relationship and commitment, which shall be terminated only by the deacon's death or, following consultation with the synod bishop, for any of the following reasons:
    1) mutual agreement to terminate the call or the completion of a call for a specific term;
    2) resignation of the deacon, which shall become effective, unless otherwise agreed, no later than 30 days after the date on which it was submitted;
    3) inability to conduct the ministry of Word and Service effectively in this congregation in view of local conditions;
    4) inability to conduct the office effectively in view of disability or incapacity of the deacon;
    5) suspension of the deacon through discipline for more than three months;
    6) resignation or removal of the deacon from the roster of Ministers of Word and Service of this church;
    7) termination of the relationship between this church and this congregation;
    8) dissolution of this congregation or the termination of a parish arrangement; or
    9) suspension of this congregation through discipline for more than six months.
b. When allegations of disability or incapacity of the deacon under paragraph a.4) above, or ineffective conduct of the office of minister of Word and Service under paragraph a.3) above, have come to the attention of the bishop of this synod,
    1) the bishop who has sole discretion may investigate such conditions personally together with a committee of two rostered ministers and one layperson, or
    2) when such allegations have been brought to the synod's attention by an official recital of allegations by the Congregation Council or by a petition signed by at least one-third of the voting members of this congregation, the bishop personally shall investigate such conditions together with a committee of two rostered ministers and one layperson.
c. In case of alleged disability or incapacity under paragraph a.4) above, the bishop's committee shall obtain and document competent medical opinion concerning the deacon's condition. When a disability or incapacity is evident to the committee, the bishop of this synod may declare the position vacant. When the position is declared vacant, the Synod Council shall list the deacon on the roster of Ministers of Word and Service with disability status. Upon resumption of the ability to conduct the office effectively, the bishop shall take steps to enable the deacon to resume the ministry, either in the congregation last served or in another appropriate call.
d. In the case of alleged local difficulties that imperil the effective functioning of this congregation under paragraph a.3) above, the bishop's committee shall endeavor to hear

from all concerned persons, after which the bishop together with the committee shall present their recommendations first to the deacon and then to this congregation. The recommendations of the bishop's committee must address whether the deacon's call should come to an end and, if so, may suggest appropriate severance arrangements. The committee may also propose other actions that should be undertaken by this congregation and by the deacon, if appropriate. If the deacon and congregation agree to carry out such recommendations, no further action need be taken by the synod.

e. If either party fails to assent to the recommendations of the bishop's committee concerning the deacon's call, this congregation may dismiss the deacon only at a legally called meeting after consultation with the bishop, either (a) by a two-thirds vote of the voting members present and voting where the bishop and the committee did not recommend termination of the call, or (b) by a majority vote of the voting members present and voting where the bishop and the committee recommended termination of the call.

f. If, in the course of proceedings described in paragraph c. or paragraph d. above, the bishop's committee concludes that there may be grounds for discipline, the committee shall make recommendations concerning disciplinary action in accordance with the provisions of this church's constitution, bylaws, and continuing resolutions.

***C9.26.** This congregation shall make satisfactory settlement of all financial obligations to a former deacon before calling a successor. A deacon shall make satisfactory settlement of all financial obligations to this congregation before beginning service in a call to another congregation or employment in another ministry setting.

***C9.27.** When a deacon is called to serve in company with another rostered minister or other rostered ministers, the privileges and responsibilities of each rostered minister shall be specified in documents to accompany the call and to be drafted in consultation involving the rostered ministers, the Congregation Council, and the bishop of the synod. As occasion requires, the documents may be revised through a similar consultation.

***C9.28.** With the approval of the bishop of the synod, this congregation may depart from *C9.25.a. and call a deacon for a specific term. Details of such calls shall be in writing setting forth the purpose and conditions involved. Prior to the completion of a term, the bishop or a designated representative of the bishop shall meet with the deacon and representatives of this congregation for a review of the call. Such a call may also be terminated before its expiration in accordance with the provisions of *C9.25.a.

***C9.29.** The deacon shall become a member of this congregation upon receipt and acceptance of the letter of call. In a parish of multiple congregations, the deacon shall hold membership in one of the congregations.

***C9.31.** The deacon(s) shall submit a report of ministry to the bishop of the synod at least 90 days prior to each regular meeting of the Synod Assembly.

CHAPTER 10.
CONGREGATION MEETING

C10.01. This congregation shall have at least one regular meeting per year. The regular meetings of this congregation shall be held at the time(s) specified in the bylaws. Consistent with the laws of the State of Minnesota, the bylaws shall designate one regular meeting per year as the annual meeting of this congregation.

C10.01.01. The annual meeting shall be held following the last worship service on the first Sunday in February and the preference is to convene the meeting in person at the church or at another designated location. The meeting may be postponed due to unusual circumstances.

C10.01.02. The order of business at the annual meeting shall be:

a. opening prayer;
b. approval of the minutes;
c. reports from Pastor, the Congregation Council and others;
d. election of Officers, Congregation Council, Nominating Committee and others;
e. approval of the budget
f. unfinished business;
g. new business; and
h. closing prayer.

C10.02. A special congregation meeting may be called by the pastor, the Congregation Council, or the president of this congregation, and shall be called by the president of this Congregation upon the written request of 25 of the voting members. The president of the Congregation Council shall call a special meeting upon the request of the synod bishop. The call for each special meeting shall specify the purpose for which it is to be held, and no other business shall be transacted.

C10.03. Notice of all meetings of this congregation shall be given at the worship services on the preceding two consecutive Sundays and by mail or electronic means, as permitted by state law, to all voting members at least 10 days in advance of the date of the meeting.

C10.03.A27. *This congregation may hold annual or special meetings in person or by remote communications. Hybrid congregation meetings are not permitted. When a meeting is held remotely, any member who wants to participate shall notify the Office Coordinator fourteen calendar days prior to an annual meeting and five calendar days prior to a special meeting. They shall also provide the Office Coordinator with an email address or telephone number from which they will participate for the remote meeting. Any exception to this time frame will be approved by the council president. In the case of remote congregation meetings, equal access voting opportunities will be determined.*

C10.03.B27. *This congregation may live-stream annual and special congregation meetings for the benefit of its members. Members watching a live-streamed meeting will not have a vote at the meeting.*

C10.04. Thirty (30) voting members shall constitute a quorum.

C10.05. Voting by proxy or by absentee ballot shall not be permitted.

C10.05.01. The current roster of voting members and the current Constitution of the St. Paul Lutheran Church shall be available at each annual or special meeting of the congregation.

C10.05.02. If more than one ballot is required in an election it shall be in order by proper motion to limit the balloting after the first ballot to the three candidates receiving the highest number of votes on the first ballot and after the second ballot to limit the balloting to the two candidates receiving the highest number of votes.

C10.05.03. In case of a tie vote, the tied candidates' names will be placed on a limited ballot and another vote held.

C10.05.04. In the following cases, voting shall be by written ballot:
a. to elect Congregation Council members, executive officers or other elected committee members;
b. to call a Pastor or request a Pastor's resignation;
c. to sever membership of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America
d. to dispose of, encumber or purchase real estate property;
e. when requested by ten or more voting members present.

C10.05.A15. *When there is one candidate for a(n) open position(s), a voting member may call to vote by show of hands to elect a candidate or slate of single candidates for each open position.*

C10.06. All actions approved by the congregation shall be by majority vote of those voting members present and voting, except as otherwise provided in the constitution or by state law.

C10.07. *Robert's Rules of Order*, latest edition, shall govern parliamentary procedure of all meetings of this congregation.

Chapter 11.
OFFICERS

C11.01. The officers of this congregation shall be a president, vice president/president-elect, secretary, and treasurer.

a. The duties of the officers shall be specified in the bylaws.
b. The officers shall be voting member of the congregation.
c. The officers shall be voting members of the Congregation Council
d. The officers shall attend and participate in Executive Committee meetings.
e. Along with the lead pastor, the officers shall serve as the Personnel Committee of the congregation.
f. The officers are responsible to ensure that meetings are conducted according to *Robert's Rules of Order*, latest edition, and the constitution of this congregation.
g. The officers are legal signers on all financial check transactions.
h. No officer shall hold more than one office at a time.

C11.01.01. The President shall:

a. direct the Congregation Council so as to best utilize the properties to the greatest spiritual use of the congregation.
b. preside at all business meetings of the congregation.
c. be the Chairperson of the Congregation Council and preside at all of its meetings, but shall have a vote in its meetings only in case of a tie.
d. prepare the agenda for all meetings of this congregation and Congregation Council.
e. be authorized as one of the signing or cosigning officers for certain correspondence, applications, reports, contracts, bonds, deeds, mortgages or other documents, which the Congregation Council has authorized on behalf of this congregation.
f. be ineligible for election to the Executive Committee for two years after completing their service as President.

C11.01.02. The Vice-President/President Elect shall:

a. assume the duties of the President in case of his/her absence, inability to serve, or resignation, and shall carry out the duties assigned to him/her by delegation.
b. serve as convener and adviser of the Nominating Committee and serve as convener of the Audit Committee.
c. serve as member of the Saint Paul Area Synod Assembly delegation.
d. serve as convener of the Call Committee with voice but not vote.
e. serve one elected term of two years; and will be Vice-President/President Elect the first year and President for the second year of the elected term.
f. be responsible for the security of all property.

C11.01.03. The Secretary shall:

a. document, distribute and, in partnership with office staff, archive the minutes of the Congregation Council meetings, annual and special congregation meetings and executive committee meetings.

b. serve one term of two years and shall be eligible to be re-elected and serve one additional term consecutively to be elected on the odd years.
c. coordinate with the Constitution Committee all changes to amendments, bylaws and continuing resolutions including submitting updates to the Saint Paul Area Synod.
d. track council member, nominating and audit committee terms.
e. be authorized as one of the signing or cosigning officers for certain correspondence, applications, reports, contracts, bonds, deeds, mortgages or other documents, which the Congregation Council has authorized on behalf of this congregation.

C11.01.04. The Treasurer shall:

a. be the chairperson of the Financial Operations Committee.
b. interact with the Financial Accountant and Financial Recording Secretary to compile monthly reports of all income and disbursements of the congregation.
c. ensure monthly financial reports are provided to the Congregation Council.
d. be responsible for communicating decisions made by the Congregation Council regarding financial requests to the appropriate committee and/or staff.
e. in collaboration with the Financial Operations Committee, prepare an annual report for submission to the congregation at the annual meeting.
f. ensure an annual internal financial review and follow-up on concerns identified by the Audit Committee.
g. have charge and custody of and be responsible for all funds, investments and securities of the congregation in such banks, trust companies or other depositories as are selected as specified by the Congregation Council.
h. in general, perform all the duties relating to the office of Treasurer and such other duties which may be assigned by the President or congregation Council.
i. serve one term of two years and shall be eligible to be re-elected and serve one additional term consecutively to be elected on the even years.

CHAPTER 12.
CONGREGATION COUNCIL

C12.01. The voting membership of the Congregation Council shall consist of the officers of this congregation, the chairpersons of the committees and, if possible, one youth or young adult. Any voting member of this congregation may be elected, subject only to the limitation on the length of continuous service permitted in that office. A member's place on the Congregation Council shall be declared vacant if the member: a.) ceases to be a voting member of this congregation or b.) is absent from four successive regular meetings of the Congregation Council without cause. Consistent with the laws of the state of Minnesota, this congregation may adopt procedures for the removal of a member of the Congregation Council.

C12.01.01. Removal of a Congregation Council member requires a show of just cause and consultation with the synodical bishop, and requires a motion and a 2/3 vote at a Congregation Council meeting.

C12.01.A27. *The Congregation Council members who are chairpersons or Secretary or Treasurer shall be elected to one term of two years and may be re-elected to one additional term in the same position or until their successor(s) are elected. After serving two terms, a council member must wait one year before being nominated for any congregation council position. The terms shall begin at the close of the annual meeting at which they are elected. However, the Nominating Committee, after diligently searching for candidates for open positions, when necessary, may request council approval, by unanimous vote, for an additional term of one year to a current Secretary, Treasurer,*

chairperson or co-chairperson's term. If approved, the member's name will be added to the ballot for nomination. No council member may serve more than five consecutive years on the Congregation Council. The terms shall begin at the close of the annual meeting at which they are elected.

C12.01.B27. The elected term for a youth or young adult to the Congregation Council shall be one year.

C12.01.C15. Current staff employees may not serve on the Congregation Council.

C12.01.D27. A committee may have co-chairpersons. When co-chairpersons are elected to the Council, the term of the co-chairs shall be 2 years. Only one committee co-chairperson shall cast their committee's vote when both are present at a Congregation Council meeting.

C12.01.E27. The chairpersons shall be elected in the even years for Financial Operations; Fellowship; Mission Outreach; and Children, Youth, and Family. The chairpersons shall be elected in the odd years for Seniors; Worship; and Memorials and Grants.

C12.02. Should a position of an officer or member of the Congregation Council be declared vacant, the Congregation Council shall appoint, by majority vote, a successor for the open Congregation Council position. The appointed successor will hold the position until the next annual meeting at which a new election for the position is scheduled to be held, at which time the congregation will vote to fill the position.

C12.03. Should both positions of the President and Vice-President/President Elect be declared vacant, the Congregation Council shall appoint, by majority vote, successors until the next annual meeting where this congregation votes to fill both positions.

C12.04. The Congregation Council shall have general oversight of the life and activities of this congregation, and in particular its worship life, to the end that everything be done in accordance with the Word of God and the faith and practice of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America. The duties of the Congregation council shall include the following:

a. To lead this congregation in stating its mission, to do long range planning, to set goals and priorities, and to evaluate its activities in light of its mission and goals.
b. To seek to involve all members of this congregation in worship, learning, witness, service, and support.
c. To oversee and provide for the administration of this congregation to enable it to fulfill its functions and perform its mission.
d. To maintain supportive relationships with the rostered minister(s) and staff and help them annually to evaluate the fulfillment of their calling or employment.
e. To be examples individually and corporately of the style of life and ministry expected of all baptized persons.
f. To promote a congregational climate of peace and goodwill and, as differences and conflicts arise, to endeavor to foster mutual understanding.
g. To arrange for pastoral service during the sickness or absence of the pastor.
h. To emphasize partnership with the synod and churchwide organization of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America as well as cooperation with other congregations, both Lutheran and non-Lutheran, subject to established policies of the synod and Evangelical Lutheran Church in America.
i. To recommend and encourage the use of program resources produced or approved by the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America.
j. To seek out and encourage qualified person to prepare for the ministry of the Gospel.

C12.04.A27. This congregation, its committees, Congregation Council, and staff employees shall reflect upon and abide by the Consensus of Harmony, as adopted by the Congregation

Council. The Consensus of Harmony shall be periodically reviewed and updated to reflect the mission statement and values of this congregation.

C12.04.B27. Consensus of Harmony: Here in God's house, let us focus on worship and fellowship, welcome others with faith and love into our conversations and speak well of others. If you have concerns about someone's conduct towards you or someone else, tell them personally. If you cannot mention your concern to them personally, your only proper course is to raise the issue with the pastor or an appropriate committee in private. Be direct and clear about any issue you might have with a person or decision. Speak of issues and fixes, not people and personalities, always aware of God's presence. Decisions for the church should be made by committees and council, only after engaging the entire group, and always keeping the love of the Holy Spirit as our guide. Guided by Galatians 3:26, let us be fully inclusive of one another, not criticizing or condemning another person's identity, but focusing on their God-given dignity and the fruits of their faith. "For in Christ Jesus you are all children of God through faith." -Galatians 3:26.

C12.04.01. It shall be the duty of the Congregation Council to assist the Pastor(s) and the President in the spiritual care of the Congregation, minister to the sick and needy, and to promote a Christian sense of stewardship of time, talents, and treasure among all of the congregation.

C12.04.02. The Congregation Council shall review annually the salary of the pastor(s) and other staff employees and make adjustments from time to time within the limits of the budget approved by the congregation.

C12.05. The Congregation Council shall be responsible for the financial and property matters of this congregation.

a. The Congregation Council shall be the board of trustees of this congregation, and as such shall be responsible for maintaining and protecting its property and the management of its business and fiscal affairs. It shall have the powers and be subject to the obligations that pertain to such boards under the laws of the State of Minnesota, except as otherwise provided herein.

b. The Congregation Council shall not have the authority to buy, sell, or encumber real property unless specifically authorized to do so by a meeting of this congregation.

c. The Congregation Council may enter into contracts of up to $20,000 for items not included in the budget of this congregation.

d. The Congregation Council shall prepare an annual budget for adoption by this congregation, shall supervise the expenditure of funds in accordance therewith following its adoption, and may incur obligations of more than five percent (5%) in excess of the anticipated receipts only after approval by a Congregation Meeting. The budget shall include this congregation's full indicated share in support of the wider ministry being carried on in partnership with the synod and churchwide organizations.

e. The Congregation Council, in coordination with the Financial Operations Committee, shall be responsible for this congregation's investments and its total insurance program.

C12.06. The Congregation Council shall see that the provisions of this constitution, its bylaws, and the continuing resolutions are carried out.

C12.07. The Congregation Council shall provide for an annual review for the membership roster.

C12.07.01. The lead pastor, in consultation with the Congregation Council, shall review and update the membership roster annually. A summary report of membership shall be published in the comprehensive annual report to the congregation.

C12.08. The Congregation Council shall be responsible for approving the hiring and termination of the employees and independent contractors of this congregation. Nothing in this provision shall be deemed to affect this congregation's responsibility for the call, terms

of call, or termination of a call of any staff member who is rostered or ordained status of this church.

C12.08.A23. *The Financial Recording Secretary shall be a staff employee or volunteer position that reports to the Senior Pastor and the Financial Operations Committee.*

C12.08.B22. *The Financial Recording Secretary shall be bonded in an amount covering 20% of the annual budget; this appointment shall be approved by the Congregation Council. An exception to bonding is inclusion in this church's insurance.*

C12.08.C23. *The Financial Recording Secretary shall keep a record of all contributions. They shall furnish statements to all congregation members showing their contributions directed by the Financial Operations Committee; and shall prepare an annual statement of contributions for the Financial Operations Committee.*

C12.08.D22. *The Office Coordinator shall store and maintain all original copies of written policies approved by the Church Council.*

C12.08.E27. *The Financial Accountant shall be a staff employee or independent contractor position that reports to the lead pastor and Financial Operations Committee.*

C12.08.F27. *The Financial Accountant assists the Financial Operations Committee using an approved computer system to maintain all accounting records of this congregation, to distribute funds per approval of the Congregation Council and/or committees, distribute funds on accounts payable, and prepare all payroll tax returns.*

C12.08.G22. *The Financial Accountant shall be bonded in an amount covering 20% of the annual budget; this appointment shall be approved by the Congregation Council. An exception to bonding is inclusion in this church's insurance.*

C12.09. The Congregation Council shall submit a comprehensive annual report to this congregation by five days prior to the annual meeting.

C12.09.A22. *Written reports from all organizations of this congregation shall be submitted to the Congregation Council by twenty-one days prior to the Annual Meeting.*

C12.10. Reserved

C12.11. The Congregation Council shall normally meet once a month. Special meetings may be called by the pastor or the president, and shall be called by the president at the request of at least one-half of its members. Notice of each special meeting shall be given to all who are entitled to be present.

C12.12. A quorum for the transaction of business shall consist of a majority of the members of the Congregation Council, including the lead pastor or interim pastor, except when the pastor or interim pastor requests or consents to be absent and has given prior approval to the agenda for a particular regular or special meeting, which shall be the only business considered at that meeting. Chronic or repeated absence of the senior pastor or interim pastor who has refused approval of the agenda of a subsequent regular or special meeting shall not preclude action by the Congregation Council, following consultation with the synod bishop.

C12.13. The Congregation Council and its committees may hold meetings by remote communication, including electronically and by telephone conference, as long as there is an opportunity for simultaneous aural communication or its equivalent. To the extent permitted by state law, notice of all meetings may be provided electronically.

C12.14. Other committees, teams, boards or task forces of this congregation may be formed, as the need arises, by decision of the Congregation Council.

C12.15. Responsibilities and duties of committees of this congregation shall be specified in bylaws and/or continuing resolutions.

CHAPTER 13.

CONGREGATION COMMITTEES

C13.01. The **Executive Committee** shall consist of this congregation's President, Vice-President/President Elect, Secretary, Treasurer and lead pastor with rights of voice and vote.

C13.01.A27. *The Executive Committee shall deal with critical and confidential matters of this congregation.*

C13.01.B22. *The Executive Committee shall create the agenda for Congregation Council meetings from input of council members and this congregation's members.*

C13.01.C22. *The Executive Committee shall function as this congregation's Personnel Committee.*

C13.01.D22. *The Executive Committee may choose members of this congregation, or non-members with background in human resources or administration, to assist in personnel decisions.*

C13.01.E22. *The Executive Committee shall ensure policies, procedure, and processes are in place to support church staff and volunteers.*

C13.01.F22. *The Executive Committee shall establish a process to assess, monitor, and track employee performance.*

C13.02. A **Nominating Committee** of five voting members of this congregation, two of whom, if possible, shall be outgoing members of the Congregation Council, shall be elected at the annual meeting for a term of one year. Members of the Nominating Committee are eligible for two consecutive terms.

C13.02.A27. *The Vice-President/President Elect shall serve as convener and as an advisory member of the Nominating Committee. The Nominating Committee shall nominate one or more candidates for each open position on the Congregation Council and shall secure the consent of each candidate. The list of nominees shall be announced at the annual meeting.*

C13.03. An **Audit Committee** of three voting members shall be elected by the Congregation Council.

C13.03.A27. *Audit Committee members shall not include members of the Financial Operations Committee or the Executive Committee. Terms of office for the Audit Committee members shall be three years, with one person cycling off each year. Members shall be eligible for a maximum of two consecutive terms for a maximum of six years. The names of the candidates shall be submitted to the Congregation Council on or before the January Congregation Council meeting.*

C13.03.B15. *The Audit Committee shall annually perform an internal review of the financial records of all organizations of the congregation. This committee shall then report to the Congregation Council at its January meeting and to this congregation at the annual meeting.*

C13.03.C22. *The Audit Committee shall oversee an external audit every five years using the services of an external auditing team or accounting firm. The Congregation Council must budget and give prior approval for this expenditure.*

C13.04. A **Mutual Ministry Team** shall provide support, feedback, and guidance to the pastoral staff.

C13.04.A27. *In addition, the pastoral staff shall bring their concerns, questions and observations to the Mutual Ministry Team. The Mutual Ministry Team shall be responsible for ensuring that all St. Paul Lutheran Church members will support, encourage and collaborate for the success of the pastoral ministry. All suggestions, comments and observations between congregation members, the Mutual Ministry Team, and the pastor are strictly confidential.*

C13.04.B27. *The Team shall be made up of five to seven members of this congregation who are not members of the Congregation Council. The Mutual Ministry Team shall be appointed by the Congregation Council and the rostered minister with this exception: A new minister of the congregation may appoint members of the Call Committee to the Mutual Ministry Team for one year. The Mutual Ministry Team will then be appointed by the Congregation Council and the rostered minister to continue on with their responsibilities.*

C13.04.C27. *The term of office shall be two years with three members to be appointed each successive year.*

C13.04.D27. *When meeting as a Mutual Ministry Team, there should be at least four members present so the minister is receiving support from a group and not just individuals.*

C13.04.E27. *The first meeting with a new pastor shall be held within forty-five days of his/her appointment. Subsequent meetings shall be held every three months or sooner if needed.*

C13.04.F27. *In the absence of a Mutual Ministry Team, the responsibilities shall be fulfilled by the Executive Committee.*

C13.05. When a vacancy occurs in a position for which this congregation calls a rostered minister, a **Call Committee** shall be elected by the Congregation Council. The term of office will terminate upon installation of the newly called rostered minister.

C13.05.01. This temporary committee shall be comprised of the Vice-President/President Elect and four to six voting members who shall be elected by the Congregation Council. If a vacancy occurs within the Call Committee, the vacancy will not be filled. If two or more vacancies occur, the Call Committee will present the Congregation Council with information regarding the status of its work. The Congregation Council will decide whether or not to fill the vacancies.

C13.05.02. The Call Committee members shall be installed at a worship service.

C13.05.A27. *The Vice-President/President Elect shall act as a non-voting convener of the Call Committee. Their duties are to:*

a. schedule and manage, in conjunction with the Congregation Council, to select committee members who represent the age and gender demographics of the congregation.

b. select committee members who understand that many meetings may take place evenings and weekends.

c. ensure that each committee member receives the St. Paul Lutheran Ministry Site Profile.

C.13.06. Other committees and task forces of this congregation may be formed, as the need arises, by decision of the Congregation Council.

C13.07. Duties of committees of this congregation shall be specified in the continuing resolutions.

C13.07.01. Each chairperson of a **Congregation Council Committee** shall serve on the Congregation Council.

C13.07.A27. *A Congregation Council Committee shall:*

a. *have a minimum of four members including the chairperson or co-chairpersons.*

b. have a maximum of seven members plus the chairperson. If more than seven members volunteer for a committee position, the Congregation Council will resolve the situation.

c. have a single chairperson or two co-chairpersons. In the case of co-chairpersons, only one committee co-chairperson shall cast their committee's vote when both are present at a Congregation Council meeting.

d. have a simple majority to pass a motion.

e. require the chairperson to vote on every motion.

f. welcome any voting member of this congregation to join any committee.

g. *show just cause for the removal of a committee member and require a motion and vote at a Congregation Council meeting.*

C13.07.B27. *Committees shall meet at least five times a year and submit meeting minutes to the Congregation Council and Office Coordinator by seven days after the meeting.*

C13.07.C27. *The Financial Operations Committee shall:*

a. *have as its chairperson the Treasurer of this congregation. In the absence of a treasurer, the chairperson shall be the Congregation Council President.*
b. *be responsible for accounting, budgeting, payroll, purchase orders, rentals, leases, credit management, computer systems, and the purchase of all audio/video equipment and systems.*
c. *be responsible for insurance and investments, in coordination and consultation with the Congregation Council.*
d. *ensure that payments are made of all expenses approved by the appropriate committee chairperson.*
e. *be responsible for the administration of the Koller Transportation Fund.*
f. *implement written financial control policies adopted by the Congregation Council.*
g. *provide representation during the annual internal review of financial records and while external audits are performed.*
h. *be responsible for the year-round stewardship education program.*
i. *plan and implement the annual stewardship appeal.*
j. *monthly review this congregation's financial activity.*
k. *quarterly inform this congregation of the church's financial status.*
l. *oversee preparation of the General Fund and Building Fund budgets.*
m. *ensure the presence of a property and grounds care team and maintenance staff to care for the building and grounds.*
n. *consult monthly with the property and grounds care team and lead pastor regarding building needs.*
o. *discuss long range building needs and coordinate building and property projects with maintenance staff and volunteers.*
p. *regularly update the Congregational Council regarding building needs and expenses.*

C13.07.D27. *The Children, Youth and Family Committee shall:*

a. *oversee, support and/or help coordinate the educational ministries of First Communion, Confirmation, Preschool and Third Grade Bibles and Young Adult Education with the pastoral leadership and direction of the Pastor(s).*
b. *oversee and support faith formation opportunities like Sunday School, Vacation Bible School, Mission Trips and other Pre-K/Elementary, Middle School, High School, and Young Adult Christian Education Events, with the leadership and direction of staff and Pastor(s).*
c. *identify and lift up the special needs of youth for spiritual development, fellowship, and opportunities for doing the mission of Jesus Christ.*

C13.07.E27. *The Fellowship Committee shall:*

a. *plan, direct and supervise a variety of regular social activities that promote fellowship and friendship within this congregation.*
b. *coordinate event/activities with the main church calendar.*
c. *encourage and assist in the development of study and discussion groups, and other appropriate activities.*
d. *coordinate new membership orientation and receptions in partnership with the pastor(s).*

C13.07.F27. *The Memorials and Grants Committee shall:*

a. *administer all designated and un-designated memorial funds and/or any such gift, grant, endowment, or bequest as directed by donors.*
b. *maintain and report such records needed to comply with regulations regarding such funds.*

C13.07.G27. The Seniors Committee shall:

a. *have for its chairperson a member that is 55 years or older.*
b. *manage the proceeds of the Seniors Fund to be used for the benefit of members of this congregation 55 years or older.*
c. *manage the payment of salary of the visitation pastor from the Seniors Fund.*
d. *coordinate senior worship services, in cooperation with the visitation pastor.*
e. *coordinate programs, and events for members of this congregation 55 years and older.*

C13.07.H27. The Mission Outreach Committee shall:

a. *direct all church programs relating to social issues within this congregation and our community.*
b. *seek to lead this congregation of St. Paul Lutheran Church in actions of social ministry that are expressions of our Christian beliefs.*
c. *encourage and expand an outreach ministry to local, Saint Paul Area Synod, Evangelical Lutheran Church in America churchwide, and foreign mission involvement.*
d. *act on such concerns after consultation with the approval of the Congregation Council, and keep the Congregation Council informed of the progress.*
e. *lead this congregation towards compassion and justice in our foreign and local missions with the needs of other in mind.*
f. *plan outreach community related events in coordination with other committees.*

C13.07.I27. The Worship Committee shall:

a. *support the pastor(s) in the ministry of worship*
b. *assist with preparations for this congregation's worship services.*
c. *aid in the scheduling and direction of the following worship ministries: greeters, ushers, readers, worship assistants, communion and may assist church staff when they request additional help.*
d. *provide input and coordinate worship service changes such as: support for music leaders and other musicians and coordinate the changing of the liturgical banners/colors of the season.*

C13.08. The lead pastor shall be *ex officio* a member of all committees and boards of this congregation. The president of this congregation shall be *ex officio* a member of all committees and boards of this congregation, except the Nominating Committee.

Chapter 14.
ORGANIZATIONS WITHIN THIS CONGREGATION

C14.01. All organizations within this congregation shall exist to aid it in ministering to the members of this congregation and to all persons who can be reached with the Gospel of Christ. As outgrowths and expressions of this congregation's life, the organizations are subject to its oversight and direction. This congregation at its meeting shall determine their policies, guide their activities, and receive reports concerning their membership, work, and finances.

C14.02. Special interest groups, other than those of the official organizations of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America, may be organized only after authorization has been given by the Congregation Council and specified in a continuing resolution.

Chapter 15.
DISCIPLINE OF MEMBERS AND ADJUDICATION

***C15.01.** Persistent and public denial of the Christian faith, willful or criminal conduct grossly unbecoming a member of the Church of Christ, continual and intentional interference with the ministry of this congregation, or willful and repeated harassment or defamation of member(s) of this congregation is sufficient cause for discipline of a member. Prior to disciplinary action, reconciliation and repentance will be attempted following Matthew 18:15–17, proceeding through these successive steps, as necessary:

a. private counsel and admonition by the pastor,
b. censure and admonition by the pastor in the presence of two or three witnesses,
c. written referral of the matter by the Congregation Council to the vice president of the synod, who will refer it to a consultation panel drawn from the Consultation Committee of the synod, and
d. written referral of the matter by the consultation panel to the Committee on Discipline of the synod.

If, for any reason, the pastor is unable to administer the admonitions required by paragraphs a. and b. hereof, those steps may be performed by another pastor chosen by the Executive Committee of the Congregation Council.

***C15.02.** The process for discipline of a member of this congregation shall be governed as prescribed by the chapter on discipline in the *Constitution, Bylaws, and Continuing Resolutions of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America*. If the counseling, censure, and admonitions pursuant to *C15.01. do not result in repentance and amendment of life, charges against the accused member(s) that are specific and in writing may be prepared by the Congregation Council, signed, and submitted to the vice president of the synod. The vice president shall select from the synod's Consultation Committee a panel of five members (three laypersons and two rostered ministers). A copy of the written charges shall be provided to the consultation panel and the member(s). The consultation panel, after requesting a written reply to the charges from the accused member(s), shall consider the matter and seek a resolution by means of investigation, consultation, mediation, or whatever other means may seem appropriate. The panel's efforts to reach a mutually agreeable resolution shall continue for no more than 45 days after the matter is submitted to it.

***C15.03.** If the consultation panel fails to resolve the matter, that panel shall refer the case in writing, including the written charges and the accused member's reply, to the Committee on Discipline of the synod for a hearing. A copy of the panel's written referral shall be delivered to the vice president of the synod, the Congregation Council, and the accused member(s) at the same time it is sent to the Committee on Discipline of the synod. The Executive Committee of the Synod Council shall then select six members from the Committee on Discipline to decide the case and shall appoint a member of the Synod Council to preside as nonvoting chair. Those six members, plus the nonvoting chair, comprise the discipline hearing panel for deciding the case. The Congregation Council and the accused member(s) are the parties to the case.

***C15.04.** The discipline hearing panel shall commence and conduct the disciplinary hearing in accordance with the provisions governing discipline of congregation members prescribed in the *Constitution, Bylaws, and Continuing Resolutions of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America.*

***C15.05.** By the vote of at least two-thirds of the members of the discipline hearing panel who are present and voting, one of the following disciplinary sanctions can be imposed:

a. suspension from the privileges of congregation membership for a designated period of time;

b. suspension from the privileges of congregation membership until the pastor and Congregation Council receive evidence, satisfactory to them, of repentance and amendment of life;
c. termination of membership in this congregation; or
d. termination of membership in this congregation and exclusion from the church property and from all congregation activities.

***C15.06.** The written decision of the discipline hearing panel shall be sent to the vice president of the synod, the accused member(s), and the Congregation Council as required by the *Constitution, Bylaws, and Continuing Resolutions of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America.* The decision of the discipline hearing panel shall be implemented by the Congregation Council and recorded in the minutes of the next council meeting.

***C15.07.** No member of this congregation shall be subject to discipline a second time for offenses that a discipline hearing panel has heard previously and decided pursuant to this chapter.

***C15.10. Adjudication**

***C15.11.** When there is disagreement between or among factions within this congregation on a substantive issue which cannot be resolved by the parties, members of this congregation may petition the synod bishop for consultation after informing the president of this congregation of their intent to do so. The synod bishop shall seek a timely resolution of the dispute. If the issue relates directly to the pastor, the bishop may begin the process in *C9.05.d. In all other matters, if the bishop's consultation fails to resolve the issue, the bishop shall refer the matter to the Consultation Committee of the synod, which shall undertake efforts to find an appropriate solution. If the Consultation Committee's efforts fail to resolve the dispute, the entire matter shall be referred to the Synod Council for adjudication by whatever process the Council deems necessary. The Synod Council's decision shall be final.

Chapter 16.
AMENDMENTS

***C16.01.** Unless provision *C16.04. is applicable, those sections of this constitution that are not required, in accord with the *Model Constitution for Congregations of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America*, may be amended in the following manner. Amendments may be proposed by at least 12 voting members or by the Congregation Council. Proposals must be filed in writing with the Congregation Council 60 days before formal consideration by this congregation at a regular or special Congregation Meeting called for that purpose. The Congregation Council shall notify this congregation's members of the proposal together with the council's recommendations at least 30 days in advance of the meeting. Notification may take place by mail or electronic means, as permitted by state law.

***C16.02.** An amendment to this constitution, proposed under *C16.01., shall:
a. be approved at any legally called meeting of this congregation by a majority vote of those voting members present and voting; and
b. be ratified unchanged at the next regular meeting of this congregation by a two-thirds vote of those voting members present and voting.

***C16.03.** Any amendments to this constitution that result from the processes provided in *C16.01. and *C16.02. shall be sent by the secretary of this congregation to the synod. The synod shall notify this congregation of its decision to approve or disapprove the proposed changes; the changes shall go into effect upon notification that the synod has approved them.

***C16.04.** This constitution may be amended to bring any section into conformity with a section or sections, either required or not required, of the *Model Constitution for Congregations of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America* as most recently amended by the Churchwide Assembly. Such amendments may be approved by a majority vote of those voting members

present and voting at any legally called meeting of this congregation without presentation at a prior meeting of this congregation, provided that the Congregation Council has submitted by mail or electronic means, as permitted by state law, notice to this congregation of such an amendment or amendments, together with the council's recommendations, at least 30 days prior to the meeting. Upon the request of at least two (2) voting members of this congregation, the Congregation Council shall submit such notice. Following the adoption of an amendment, the secretary of this congregation shall submit a copy thereof to the synod. Such provisions shall become effective immediately following this congregation's vote of approval.

Chapter 17.
BYLAWS

***C17.01.** This congregation may adopt bylaws. No bylaw may conflict with this constitution.

***C17.02.** Bylaws may be adopted or amended at any legally called meeting of this congregation with a quorum present by a two-thirds vote of those voting members present and voting.

***C17.03.** Changes to the bylaws may be proposed by any voting member, provided that such additions or amendments be submitted in writing to the Congregation Council at least 60 days before a regular or special Congregation Meeting called for that purpose. The Congregation Council shall notify this congregation's members of the proposal with the council's recommendations at least 30 days in advance of the Congregation Meeting. Notification may take place by mail or electronic means, as permitted by state law.

***C17.04.** Adopted or amended bylaws shall be sent by the secretary of this congregation to the synod.

Chapter 18.
CONTINUING RESOLUTIONS

***C18.01.** This congregation in a legally called meeting or the Congregation Council may enact continuing resolutions. Such continuing resolutions may not conflict with the constitution or bylaws of this congregation.

***C18.02.** Continuing resolutions shall be enacted or amended by a majority vote of a meeting of this congregation or a two-thirds vote of all voting members of the Congregation Council.

***C18.03.** Adopted or amended continuing resolutions shall be sent by the secretary of this congregation to the synod.

Chapter 19.
INDEMNIFICATION

***C19.01.** Consistent with the provisions of the laws under which this congregation is incorporated, this congregation may adopt provisions providing indemnification for each person who, by reason of the fact that such person is or was a Congregation Council member, officer, employee, agent, or other member of any committee of this congregation, was or is threatened to be made a party to any threatened, pending, or completed civil, criminal, administrative, arbitration, or investigative proceeding.

Chapter 20.
PARISH AUTHORIZATION

[Required provisions when congregation is part of a parish]*

***C20.01.** This congregation may unite with one or more other congregations recognized by the synod named in *C6.01. to form a parish. Except as provided in *C20.02. and *C20.03., a written agreement, developed in consultation with the synod and approved by the voting members of each congregation participating in the parish, shall specify the powers and responsibilities

that have been delegated to the Parish Council. The Parish Agreement shall identify which congregation of the parish issues calls on behalf of the member congregations or shall establish a process for identifying which congregation issues calls on behalf of the member congregations.

***C20.02.** One congregation of a parish shall issue a call on behalf of the member congregations to a minister of Word and Sacrament or a candidate for the roster of Ministers of Word and Sacrament who has been recommended by the synod bishop to serve the congregations of the parish. Such a call shall be approved prior to issuance by a two-thirds vote at a congregation meeting of each congregation forming the parish. If any congregation of the parish should fail to approve the call, the other congregations of the parish shall have the right to terminate the parish agreement.

***C20.03.** One congregation of a parish may issue a call on behalf of the member congregations to a minister of Word and Service or a candidate for the roster of Ministers of Word and Service who has been recommended by the synod bishop to serve the congregations of the parish. Such a call shall be approved prior to issuance by a two-thirds vote at a congregation meeting of each congregation forming the parish. If any congregation of the parish should fail to approve the call, the other congregations of the parish shall have the right to terminate the parish agreement.

***C20.04.** Any one of the congregations of the parish may terminate their relationship with the pastor as provided in *C9.05.d. In such case, the other congregation(s) of the same parish shall have the right to terminate the parish agreement.

***C20.05.** Any one of the congregations of the parish may terminate their relationship with a minister of Word and Service as provided in *C9.25.d. In such case, the other congregation(s) of the same parish shall have the right to terminate the parish agreement.

***C20.06.** Whenever a parish agreement is terminated, the call of any rostered minister serving that parish is terminated. Should any congregation that was formerly part of the parish agreement desire to issue a new call to that rostered minister, it may do so in accordance with the call process of this church.

HISTORICAL TRACKING OF REVISIONS

Council Approved on 8/18/15
Synod Constitution Teams Requested Revisions on 9/3/15
First Congregational Vote on 10/25/15 - Results: Passed
Second congregational Vote on 01/31/16 - Results: Passed
Ratified on 01/31/2016
Emailed to Synod Office on 02/02/2016

Revised on 02/05/2017
Revised on 03/22/2017
Emailed to Synod Office on 03/22/2017

Revised on 12/21/2020

Revision Draft and Document of Changes completed on 09/13/2022 this revision included amendments approved by the ELCA's sixteenth Churchwide Assembly in 2022
Revision Draft and Document of Changes emailed to Synod Office on 09/14/2022
Revision Draft approved by Bishop Lull on 10/26/2022
Revised Constitution approved by Congregational Council on 11/15/2022
Revised Constitution approved by Congregation at the Special Congregation meeting on 12/04/2022
Ratification confirmed at this congregation's Annual Meeting on 02/05/2023
Ratified copy emailed to Bishop Lull on 02/07/2023

Continuing Resolution approved at the December 2023 Congregation Council Meeting to change the name of the Business Management committee to Financial Operations.
Continuing Resolution approved at the March 2024 Congregation Council Meeting to change the name of the Social Concerns committee to Mission Outreach.
Continuing Resolution approved at the October 2024 Congregation Council Meeting to update the Mutual Ministry Team.

Revised in October 2026 to conform with 2025 updates to the Model Constitution for Congregations of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America. This congregation's Visions and Values and the Consensus of Harmony were added as continuing resolutions. Continuing Resolutions within Chapter 13 were reviewed and updated.
Revision draft emailed to the Synod office (Leslie Ortiz) on 10/13/2026. Minor suggestions and changes made.
Revised Constitution approved by Congregational Council on 10/20/2026. Further revisions approved by the Congregational Council on 11/17/26.
Revised Constitution approved by the Congregation …….