



LUTHERAN CHURCH OF THE NATIVITY

Gathering through the love of Christ to care, grow, and serve.

SPECIAL CONGREGATION MEETING: On September 20, Nativity will vote on proposed revisions to our Constitution and Bylaws. Most of the revisions are edits to align with recent updates to the Model Constitution for Congregations of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America. Recommended revisions directly pertaining to Nativity are to streamline processes and size the Church Council and selected committees reflecting Nativity's current membership size. Key recommended revisions are:

- Call process for Pastor and Deacon
- Election of Officers
- Size of Congregation Council
- Filling Council Vacancy
- Size of Nomination Committee

Over the course of the next five weeks, we will provide information on each of the above recommended revisions by describing the current text in our Constitution, followed by the recommended text.

Chapter C9.01/C13.06- Call Process for Pastor/Deacon

Current Text

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 [this congregation][the Congregation Council] to recommend the call, shall seek the advice and help of the bishop of the synod.

C13.06. When a pastoral vacancy occurs, a Call Committee of five voting members shall be elected by this congregation. Term of office will terminate upon installation of the newly called pastor. The Call Committee shall follow the guidelines of the North Carolina Synod of the Evangelical Lutheran Church of America for calling a pastor. Staff members, their spouses and other close relations to a staff member (to be further defined in the Continuing Resolutions) may not serve as a member of the Call Committee.

Recommended Text (Revision)

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.

C13.06 When a pastoral vacancy occurs, the Congregation Council shall contact the synodical bishop for guidance. A Call Committee of five voting members shall be elected by the Congregation Council. Term of office will terminate upon installation of the newly called pastor. The Call Committee shall follow the guidelines of the North Carolina Synod of the Evangelical Lutheran Church of America for calling a pastor. Staff members, their spouses and other close relations to a staff member may not serve as a member of the Call Committee.