

6/13/17

## **Addition to the Bylaws for creation and management of an Endowment Fund:**

### **ARTICLE III – ENDOWMENT FUND**

#### **Section 1 - Definition**

The Abiding Word Evangelical Lutheran Church Endowment Fund (Fund) shall provide for both a permanently restricted endowment fund and a savings fund which may be expended over time. Collectively the endowment fund and the savings fund shall be known as the Fund.

#### **Section 2 - Purpose**

The purpose of the Fund shall be to provide a vehicle for members of the congregation to give back to God through planned giving that supports the long-term ministry of the congregation in keeping with its mission to reach out with the gospel to win the lost for Christ and to nurture believers for lives of Christian service, all to the glory of God.

#### **Section 3 - Administration**

##### **A. Congregational Planned Giving Committee**

The Abiding Word Evangelical Lutheran Church Congregational Planned Giving Committee (CPGC) shall consist of four members, all of whom shall be members in good standing. Members may be men or women serving on other boards or committees. The term of each member shall be four years. The Church Council shall appoint the members with staggered terms. In the event of a vacancy on the CPGC, the Church Council shall appoint a replacement member to complete the vacated term. The Congregational Treasurer is an advisory member of this committee and liaison to the Church Council. A pastor shall serve as a non-voting, ex-officio member. Committee members may be reappointed at the end of their term.

##### **B. Congregational Planned Giving Committee meetings**

The CPGC shall meet at least quarterly or as needed. A quorum shall consist of three voting members. The CPGC shall elect from its membership a Chairman and a Recording Secretary. The Chairman must be a male. The Chairman shall call and facilitate all meetings. The Recording Secretary shall maintain complete and accurate minutes of meetings.

##### **C. Congregational Planned Giving Committee responsibilities**

The CPGC is to plan and carry out an annual program to inform congregation members of the benefits of Christian giving and the purpose of the Fund. It shall encourage members of the congregation to meet with Christian Giving Counselors to discuss their

planned gifts. It shall oversee the investing, distribution and allocation functions listed in the following sections.

#### **Section 4 – Gifts to the Fund**

All gifts received by the Fund shall comply with the Abiding Word Gift Acceptance Policy as amended from time to time by the Church Council. Gifts may be given to a true endowment fund or to a savings fund.

#### **Section 5 – Investments**

All Fund assets are to be managed and invested in good faith and with the care an ordinarily prudent person in a like position would exercise under similar circumstances. To accomplish this, Fund assets shall be invested with WELS Investment Funds.

#### **Section 6 – Distributions from the Fund**

To ensure the longevity of the Fund, the following distribution formula will be used: Annually the Fund shall distribute four percent of the three year (or since inception) rolling average market value of the permanently restricted gifts as of the end of the fiscal year, or as determined by WELS Foundation.

To facilitate use of the savings gifts to the Fund, the following distribution formula shall be used, subject to annual review: Annually the Fund shall distribute at least five percent of the value of the savings fund as of the end of the fiscal year. The actual percent shall be determined by the CPGC, in consultation with the Church Council. Should the total value of the fund fall below \$25,000, the entire fund may be distributed.

Distributions and allocations will be announced to the congregation for the purpose of celebrating the Lord's blessing through the Fund.

#### **Section 7 – Disposition or the Transfer of the Fund**

In the event Abiding Word Evangelical Lutheran Church ceases to exist either through merger or dissolution, distribution of the Fund to a successor organization shall be at the recommendation of the Church Council and by approval of the voters' assembly in conformity with the non-profit corporation statutes and Abiding Word Evangelical Lutheran Church's constitution and bylaws.