

Explanation of proposals by the Constitution and Bylaws Committee.

Proposal 1:

Textual changes and emendations for clarity of wording and consistency in formatting. Textual changes are noted in teal with added words or ~~strikeout~~ for removals. This proposal clarifies the use of the *Church Operating Policies and Procedures* and creates a section regarding its contents. This proposal also adds that the Deacons will approve job descriptions determined by the Personnel Committee. The word “replacement” is added to the staff section as a more accurate title. Other formatting changes have been made for consistency, including bullet points for lists and italics for all documents.

Proposal 2:

Aligning the threshold for temporarily suspending a provision of the Constitution to match the threshold for changing it.

Proposal 3:

Discusses the qualifications and eligibility of church leaders, specifically for Deacons. These changes specify that all leaders should not only participate in the life of the church, but to share Christ in daily life and witness. Scriptures that outline the office of Deacon are added. A new sub-section breaks out additional Deacon eligibility. Significant changes include the expectation that a Deacon be a member for at least two years and that spouses will not be able to serve as Deacons at the same time. The church affirmed the bulleted list as part of the Deacon Election Task Force proposal. We are now enshrining those qualifications in the Constitution.

Proposal 4:

We are enshrining in the Constitution the provisional process we used for Deacon elections this year. One addition to this proposal is that the church will be notified in the event of a Deacon vacancy during the year. This process was thoroughly discussed before we suspended the Constitution to try it for 2024.

Proposal 5:

Makes allowances in the Constitution for absentee ballots at least one week before a vote. These are intended for votes where there will not be discussion on the floor in which the motion may change.