

Updates made to the Draft Constitution, which includes the Bylaws, are highlighted in this document. The new Model Constitution and Bylaws from the Synod effective November 2022 specifies that there is a single document that contains both the Constitution and Bylaws instead of separate documents. Most of the updated Model is almost identical to previous Grace Lutheran Constitution effective since January 1995 and the Bylaws effective since January 2011.

Chapters 2-9, 14-19 are generally required verbiage from the ELCA; the following updates were approved by the council.

C5.03.j. new wording as per the ELCA

C5.05. added the related Endowment Fund bylaws to this section.

C9.01. added “congregational council”

C9.15. new sentence as per ELCA

C9.21. added “congregational council”

C16.01. clarified Congregation Council

Chapters 10-13 are Congregation-specific Sections.

C10.01. added the related Congregation Meeting bylaws to this section.

C10.02. added “pastor” and “10” percent

C10.03. added “voting” members

C10.04. added “5” percent for a quorum

C11.01. added the related Officers bylaws to this section.

C11.02. clarified “congregation council”

C12.01. “Deacon” added. Updated the number of council members to “not fewer than five members”.

C12.02. deacon added plus Grace has council serve for 3 years

C12.04.d. added sentence about annual evaluation for the rostered minister

C12.05.c. added the statement “may enter into contracts up to the value of the reserve fund”

C12.05.d. updated to “may incur obligations of more than 5% in excess of the anticipated budget only after approval by a Congregation Meeting”.

C12.06. new statement added

C13.01. added the related Executive Committee bylaws to this section.

C13.02. added the related Nominating Committee bylaws to this section.

C13.03. added the related Staff Support Committee bylaws to this section.