

Introduction

The procedures for administering the business of the congregation were put in place at a time when communication was not nearly as multi-faceted as it is today. To stay connected to the happenings of Trinity required regular physical presence in Board, Council, and Voter meetings. More recently communication channels have expanded greatly while personal schedules also seem to be busier.

Very poor attendance (relative to the current definition of the Church Council) over the course of several years necessitates consideration toward re-structuring the Church Council and our meeting frequency. The objective of this proposal is to consolidate the structure of the Church Council for more consistent participation and decision making in important matters of congregational business.

Respectfully Submitted,
Pastor Gehne

By-Law #5 - Church Officers, Boards & Council (see current Constitution and By-Laws for comparison)

The Church Council shall act as the executive board of the congregation. Its acts shall be deemed valid congregational action in matters that do not expressly require the action of the Voters' Assembly or are otherwise designated to Called staff. It shall be composed of:

- a. Chairman of the Congregation
- b. Vice-Chairman of the Congregation
- c. Treasurer
- d. Secretary
- e. The elected chair of the: [current By-Laws calls for all Board members]
 - a. Board of Trustees
 - b. Board of Elders
 - c. Board of Education
 - d. Board of Evangelism and Missions
 - e. Board of Stewardship
- f. Financial Secretary [current By-Laws calls for all Finance Committee]
- g. Called Pastors
- h. Called School Principal [current By-Laws calls for all called faculty]

Quorum and Requirements

A quorum shall consist of at least 50% of the Council members (7 of the 13 identified members). All Council members shall confirm their availability to attend the meetings so a quorum can be ascertained in advance, or an alternate date selected. The Chairman is responsible for confirming the quorum and meeting date and time. Any rescheduled meeting shall occur before the corresponding Voters' meeting. In the event that a Board Chair is unavailable another designee by the Board Chair should attend.

[Note: Quorums are generally considered to be those present. In this configuration of fewer identified members and fewer meetings a quorum insures that items can be discussed and decided with appropriate representation]

The Chair of the Congregation shall provide an agenda and any appropriate information in advance of the meeting, when confirming the quorum and meeting time.

Each Council meeting shall require the presentation of a financial report from the Treasurer (or other designee of the Chairman).

Meetings

The Council shall meet a minimum of four times per year. The Voters shall meet a minimum of twice per year as listed below:

January	Council	[No Council meeting frequency is currently stipulated]
April	Council	
May	Voters	[Constitution calls for four regular Voters' meetings]
August	Council	
October	Council	
November	Voters	

Additional meetings may be called by the Chair of the Congregation, providing advanced notice and confirming a quorum in advance of the meeting (in the case of a Council meeting).