

Summary of Proposed FCC Constitution Changes, related to Boards and Committees

After discussions with the Long-Range Vision Committee and senior staff members, to identify ways to ensure Boards and Committees are as vibrant and impactful as possible – the Governing Board is sending the following changes to our Constitution to the congregation for a vote. Similar changes to the Governing Board By-Laws have already been approved by the Governing Board.

Changes to Boards (Article IV – Governance)

- **Create *Board of Congregational Connections*, combining Lay Ministries and Congregational Life.**
 - **By combining these two boards whose missions and work intersect, we can have a bigger impact** as we plan new ways to be a welcoming church and facilitate new fellowship and connection opportunities for both members and visitors.
 - **The new Board of Congregational Connections will consist of up to 12, but no fewer than 8 members.** The Board shall be responsible for welcoming and inviting visitors to FCC (including recruitment, training and scheduling of FCC Hosts), New Member Information Sessions, shepherding and connecting newer members into the active life of the congregation, reaching out to inactive members, and providing fellowship opportunities to develop a sense of Christian Community.
- **Rename and refocus Board of Outreach Ministries to *Board of Faith in Action***
 - **The Board will continue to vet and distribute FCC grant funds to community organizations.**
 - **The new Faith in Action Board will also have an increased focus on:**
 - Providing opportunities for important conversations on topics such as, but not limited to, social justice or environmental issues, and
 - Organizing regular opportunities for hands on mission and volunteer work.

Governing Board Changes

- **Governing Board *may* name a Focus Elder annually, however this is not required. (Article IV – Governance)**
 - The Focus Elder is needed some years, but not in other years.
- **Eliminate second Personnel representative on Governing Board. (Article XVI – Committees, Section 2)**
 - The Governing Board (GB) currently has two Personnel representatives, the Chair of the Committee and an additional GB representative from Personnel.
 - Personnel is more heavily represented than other Board or Committees.
 - This is not needed, as the Governing Board can choose to invite anyone from Personnel or the congregation to attend a GB meeting at any time for informational purposes.
- **Governing Board shall consist of 12-13 members (vs. 15). (Article IX – Governing Board)**
 - The changes above will result in 12-13 Governing Board members each year.
 - This changes the quorum from nine to eight.

Elder Requirements (Article VII – Elders)

- **Change elder requirement to 2 years of active FCC membership (from 3 years).**
 - This provides the Nominating Committee with the ability to bring newer members into leadership positions, when they are eager to serve and have gifts that are needed by the congregation.

Board and Committee Terms ([Article VIII – All Boards](#))

- **Flexibility to nominate Board and Committee members for one, two, or three-year terms.**
 - This provides the Nominating Committee with flexibility in recruiting members to serve.
 - This also provides the Nominating Committee with options to help manage Board and Committee membership continuity (e.g. the number of members whose terms end and roll off each year).

Article XII – Board of Faith in Action (reflects name change)

Article XIV – Board of Congregational Life (eliminated to form new Board)

Article XV – Board of Lay Ministries (eliminated to form new Board)

Article XIV – Board of Congregational Connections (description of new Board)

Subsequent Articles are renumbered