

ELC's Constitution Revision Process

This document is an attempt to explain how the Council went about this revision of the ELC Constitution.

In August 2017, just before leaving on her sabbatical, Pastor Vera requested that Council spend effort to get ELC's Constitution into conformity with the ELCA's Model Constitution. Our last update was in 2008. There have been four ELCA updates between then and now, some of which were very extensive.

Two committees were formed – one to look at separating the “Stewardship and Finance Board” into two separate boards – a Stewardship Board and a Finance Board. The second committee, the Revision Committee, was to thoroughly evaluate the 2016 ELCA Model Constitution in relationship to how it related to ELC.

The Stew & Fin Committee had several meetings and felt that it was in the best interest of ELC to separate these two vital functions of the church into two separate boards.

Once the Revision Committee determined that the 2016 ELCA Model Constitution had no controversial provisions, they proceeded to address bringing our constitution into conformity with the 2016 ELCA Model. In early December they finished their work and submitted a revised constitution to the Executive Committee for review.

In late January, the Council received the committees' proposed Constitution and in February, after further Council revisions, voted to submit a version of our new Constitution to the congregation for approval at the April Congregation Meeting.

Stewardship and Finance Committee members were David Hood, Jon Johnson, Okie Arnot, Michelle Foley, Bob Hawsey and Larry Patella.

The Revision Committee members were Peggy Fetchenhier, Karla Briggs, Kim Nemmers, Philip Nestingen and Larry Patella with Pastor Vera as an *ad hoc* member.

The Executive Committee members are Pastor Vera, George Hellmuth, Jim Ritter, David Hood and Melissa Krane.