

BYLAWS OF GRACE COVENANT PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH, INC.

(Revised ~~01-16-08~~12-19-11)

WHEREAS, Grace Covenant Presbyterian Church, a Kansas non-profit corporation at Overland Park, Kansas, a member ~~church-congregation~~ of the Heartland Presbytery in the Synod of Mid-America of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.), and subject to the Constitution of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.), by authority of its registered members in the annual congregational meeting held on January 29~~7~~, 201~~208~~, has favorably considered revocation of all prior bylaws of the corporation and approval of new articles as the bylaws of the corporation;

Comment [KDM1]: G-1.01 defines the church in its particular context as the "congregation"

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that Grace Covenant Presbyterian Church hereby revokes all prior bylaws and amendments thereto and adopts the following articles as the bylaws of the corporation, subject always to the comparable provisions of the Book of Order, which is Part II of the Constitution of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.), whether referenced herein or otherwise provided, to be effective from and after February 1, 201~~208~~.

ARTICLE I – MEMBERSHIP

Section I-1. Members of the Corporation

All members registered on the ~~A~~active member Rroll of Grace Covenant Presbyterian Church are members of the corporation and when in attendance at any congregational meeting shall have the right to be recognized, speak and vote. [G 7.0300; G 7.0401; G 10.0302a(2)(a)G-1.0501; G-3.0204a; G-4.0102]. Registered ~~A~~active Mmembers ~~have the right to speak in meetings of the congregation and to also may~~ be elected to ~~office~~the ordered ministries of elder and deacon. [G 5.0202G-1.0402].

Comment [KDM2]: Capitalization has been changed throughout to conform to the Book of Order style. See also "clerk" and "session" in particular.

Comment [KDM3]: G-2.0102 now calls elder, deacon, etc. "ordered ministry"

Section I-2. Eligibility as Active Members

Members of the ~~church-congregation~~ shall be registered by the session upon the ~~A~~active member Rroll [G 10.0102G-3.0201c; G-3.0204a] and shall have all of the rights ~~as of A~~active Mmembers and members of the corporation by maintaining those qualifications and that degree of participation described in ~~S~~section G 5.0202G-1.0402 of the Book of Order. ~~Applicants for membership shall be admitted to the Active Roll by the Session pursuant to Section G 10.0102b of the Book of Order.~~

Comment [KDM4]: Redundant of the first part of the preceding sentence and also inaccurate in that applicants for membership are not recorded on the membership rolls

Section I-3. Responsibilities and Privileges of Active Membership

Active Mmembers shall regularly participate in the ~~program~~work and worship ~~services~~ of the ~~church~~congregation, attend and vote at annual meetings, and perform the responsibilities of any office to which they are appointed or elected, among other disciplines and responsibilities of membership. [G 5.0202G-1.0402]. Candidates for ~~A~~active Mmembership in the congregation

Comment [KDM5]: Phrase used in G-1.0402.

shall participate in programs of ~~instruction~~ preparation for membership provided by the ~~S~~session. [G-5.0400G-1.0402].

Comment [KDM6]: G-1.0402 uses the word "prepare"

Section I-4. Termination of Active Membership

~~Those active members who do not maintain those qualifications and that degree of participation described in section G-1.0402 of the Book of Order may be assigned to the inactive member roll by order of the session. Assignment to the inactive member roll does not terminate membership, but does remove from the individual so assigned the privileges of membership described in sections I-1 and I-3, above. Active Mmembership may be terminated by assignment to the Inactive Members Roll, affiliate membership, or other authorized status by order of the Ssession deleting an individual from the active member roll in conformity with pursuant to Ssection G-10.0302G-3.0204a of the Book of Order. [G-5.0502; G-10.0302a & b]. Upon sSuch action by the Ssession, also terminates membership in the corporation shall also be terminated.~~

Comment [KDM7]: Note: the inactive member roll no longer exists under the new FOG. However, Grace Covenant's historical practice of using the inactive roll to track members in need of care/attention is still valid. Under these revisions, assignment to the inactive roll will be an intermediate step toward deletion from the active roll and concurrent termination of membership.

ARTICLE II – CORPORATE MEETINGS

Section II-1. Annual Congregational Meetings

The ~~A~~active ~~M~~members and pastors shall hold an annual meeting of the congregation in January, which shall be announced by public notice to the congregation at regular services of worship on at least three successive Sundays, the last of which may be the date of the noticed meeting. [G-7.0303bG-1.0501; G-1.0502]. Such meetings shall constitute meetings of the corporation which shall be open to all ~~A~~active ~~M~~members. Only ~~A~~active ~~M~~members may debate questions placed before the meeting unless a motion to allow comments upon the question by other ~~members~~ participants in the life and worship of the congregation is approved by majority vote of the ~~A~~active ~~M~~members. [The annual meeting shall review the adequacy of the compensation of the pastor or pastors upon report of the prior review by the session and may transact any other business related to the matters listed in G-1.0503, including conduct ~~election~~ of elders, deacons and others ~~officers~~ designated for election at the annual meeting by the ~~S~~session and may hearing and receiving financial reports and reports of the ~~session, B~~board of ~~D~~deacons and other teams and organizations of the ~~ehurch~~congregation, and shall review the adequacy of the compensation of the pastor or pastors upon report of the prior review by the Session. [G-7.0302a].

Comment [KDM8]: Specifically required by G-1.0502.

Comment [KDM9]: This is the phrase used in G-1.0404 to designate individuals who are not active members but who nevertheless are involved in the congregation. I think it is broad enough to cover affiliate members, baptized members, and other participants.

Comment [KDM10]: This is meant to more closely conform to G-1.0503, while still maintaining GCPC's practices at its annual meetings.

Section II-2. Special Congregational Meetings

Special meetings may be called by the ~~S~~session or the ~~P~~presbytery, and must be called by the ~~S~~session when requested in writing by one-fourth of the ~~A~~active ~~M~~members of the congregation. [G-7.0303aG-1.0502]. Notice of special meetings shall be given in the same manner as for the annual meeting except that notice of the specific items for consideration at the special meeting shall also be given. [G-7.0302bG-1.0501]. The business of Sspecial meetings shall be limited to the items of which notice has been given specifically listed in the notice for the meeting, and other business shall not be transacted. [G-1.0501]. Special meetings may be conducted in segments during regularly scheduled worship services conducted within the same week provided that (i) the aggregate attendance at all services forming a single special meeting

Comment [KDM11]: This conforms to the language used in G-1.0501.

by Aactive Mmembers not having voted previously in the same special meeting constitutes a quorum as provided in section II-4, (ii) Aactive Mmembers attending more than one service vote only once, and (iii) the vote at all services conforms to the same result. If the vote at any service differs from that of any other service, the vote of the segmented special meeting shall be declared void by the Session and a consolidated special meeting shall be called with specific notice to include an election upon the same matter.

Section II-3. Business to be Transacted at Meetings of the Congregation

Business to be transacted at the annual or special meetings of the congregation shall ~~include the following~~ be limited to:

- (a) matters relating to the electing of elders and deacons;
- (b) matters related to the calling of a pastor or associate pastors;
- (c) matters related to the pastoral relationship, such as changing the terms of call or requesting or consenting or declining to consent to dissolution;
- (d) matters related to buying, mortgaging, or selling real property;
- (e) matters related to the permissive powers of a congregation, such as the desire to lodge all administrative responsibility in the Session requesting the presbytery to grant an exemption as permitted in the Book of Order; and
- (f) matters related to the permissive powers of a congregation and those matters not expressly prohibited by the Book of Order. [G7.0304aG-1.0503].

Comment [KDM12]: This is a change in the new FOG.

~~Business at congregational meetings shall be limited to the forgoing matters. [G 7.0304b].~~

Section II-4. Quorum

The quorum of any annual or special meeting of the congregation shall be not less than one-tenth of the Aactive Mmembers. ~~[G-7.0305].~~

Comment [KDM13]: G-1.0501 allows congregations to set the quorum, so I carried over the existing tenth requirement.

Section II-5. Procedure at Congregational Meetings

The pastor shall ~~chair-moderate~~ the annual and special meetings. If the pastor is unable to preside, he or she shall invite another pastor who is a member of the presbytery, who ordinarily will be an associate pastor of the congregation, to serve as moderator. [G-1.0504]. Pastors, not being members of the congregation, may not vote in such meetings. When there is a tie vote, the moderator shall put the question a second time after allowing the opportunity for further debate upon the question. In the event of a tie vote a second time, the motion shall be deemed to have failed. ~~[G 7.0306; G 7.0308].~~ For matters relating to the calling of a pastor and the pastoral relationship, the moderator may delegate the chair to the president of the corporation, or other Aactive Elder if the president is not present, for such limited purposes. Robert's Rules of Order, in the form of its most recent edition, shall apply to any procedure not included in the Book of Order or these bylaws.

Comment [KDM14]: "Moderate" is the term used in G-1.0504.

Comment [KDM15]: Added this phrase to the language taken from G-1.0504 to reflect GPCPC's practice.

Comment [KDM16]: These provisions no longer exist in the new FOG.

Comment [KDM17]: The new FOG no longer specifies Roberts Rules as the default procedure.

Section II-6. Minutes

The Clerk of the Session shall be secretary of all congregational meetings. If the Clerk is unable to serve, the Aactive Mmembers attending the meeting shall elect the acting secretary.

~~[G-1.0505].~~ The minutes of each meeting shall be attested by the moderator and the secretary. ~~[G 7.0307].~~ The minutes shall be published and available for review by the S~~s~~ession, which shall read, correct, and approve the minutes at its next scheduled meeting thereafter. The minutes as so read, corrected, and approved shall be entered in the minute book of the ~~corporation~~ congregation maintained by the S~~s~~ession.

Comment [KDM18]: This is no longer required, but is still good practice (and our existing practice).

Section II-7. Officers of the Corporation

For the purpose of complying with state law relating to corporations and for the purpose of executing documents for and on behalf of the ~~cor~~poration, the S~~s~~ession shall annually elect at its final stated meeting for the calendar year from among its first- and second-year classes a president of the corporation. The president shall hold office for the next calendar year. The C~~l~~erk of the S~~s~~ession shall concurrently serve as secretary of the corporation. The C~~l~~erk of the S~~s~~ession shall maintain ~~at~~ an accessible and publicized ~~place~~ method or methods within the ~~church a single place~~ for the filing of all forms of notification, petitions, or other written communications to the S~~s~~ession. ~~The Session shall comprise the corporate board of trustees with the moderator as chairman. [G 7.0400; G 10.0103a].~~

Comment [KDM19]: I don't think there has ever been a "place" for filing – all the communications are done by various methods such as email or by placing something in the folder outside the church office.

Comment [KDM20]: Deleted as redundant to III-2(c).

ARTICLE III – THE SESSION AS THE GOVERNING BODY

Section III-1. Authority and Responsibilities

The S~~s~~ession is responsible for the mission and government of the ~~church~~ congregation. It has ~~those~~ responsibilities and authority as designated in S~~s~~ections ~~G 10.0102, G 10.0300 [G 10.0301 through 10.0302e, inclusive], and G 10.0401~~ G-3.0101 through G-3.0113, inclusive, and G-3.0201 through G-3.0205, inclusive, of the Book of Order.

Section III-2. Composition and Functions

(a) The S~~s~~ession consists of the pastor and associate pastor(s), twelve adult ~~A~~ active ~~E~~ elders in three classes of four members each elected by the congregation to three-year staggered terms, and additionally two annually elected ~~A~~ active ~~E~~ lders as ~~Y~~ youth ~~R~~ epresentatives who may be under the age of 18 years and who regularly participate in the organized youth programs of the ~~church~~ congregation. There shall ~~be~~ additionally be appointed by the S~~s~~ession an ~~E~~ lder as ~~C~~ lerk, who may at the discretion of the S~~s~~ession be either ~~concurrently~~ one of the voting members of the Session active elders or an inactive ~~E~~ lder who is not a voting member of the S~~s~~ession.

(b) Annually at its stated meeting in May, the S~~s~~ession shall select from among its second- and third-year classes (as defined below in section III-3) four ~~A~~ active ~~E~~ lders, who along with the clerk (if not an active elder), pastor, and associate pastor(s), shall serve as the ~~E~~ xecutive ~~C~~ ommittee for the purpose of discerning issues, proposing solutions and policy, approving the agenda after its preparation with the participation of the moderator, suggesting appointments to operational standing teams and committees, and proposing goals for and objectives of the ~~church~~ congregation and pastors, among other things. The ~~E~~ xecutive

Comment [KDM21]: This brings the EC membership in line with current practice.

~~C~~committee shall also evaluate the pastors and the efficacy of the standing teams and committees and perform such other functions as delegated by the Ssession.

(c) Active Elders, by virtue of their office, and if otherwise eligible under civil law, shall have the concurrent and commensurate capacity to act as the sole trustees of the corporation in the event there should arise any legal requirement to exercise authority as trustees. The president of the corporation shall act as the chairperson of the trustees. There shall be no separate trustees or board of trustees for the corporation. [~~G-7.0404~~G-4.0102].

Comment [KDM22]: This covers us regarding the youth elders acting as corporate trustees.

Section III-3. Qualification and Terms for Active Elders

Except for the ~~Y~~youth ~~R~~representatives elected annually for a term of one year, ~~E~~lders shall be elected to the Ssession for terms of not more than three years and for a limit of two consecutive terms not exceeding six years. There shall be three classes of four ~~A~~active ~~E~~lders, each class to be elected annually once every three years on a staggered basis. Qualification for election, the procedure for nomination and election, and the term of office shall conform to ~~G-14.0200~~ [~~G-14.0201 through G-14.0211, inclusive~~]G-2.0401 through G-2.0404, inclusive, of the Book of Order. Terms on the Ssession shall commence after installation with the first stated or ~~called-special~~ meeting of the Ssession following the first day of ~~May~~June. Vacancies on the Ssession shall be filled by election of the ~~A~~active ~~M~~embers at the annual meeting or a special meeting of the congregation called for that purpose after conformity with the same qualification requirements and nominating procedure as provided in this article for original elections.

Comment [K&J23]: The word “annually” was misleading here.

Section III-4. Meetings of the Session

Stated Ssession meetings shall ordinarily be held on the same day of the same week of each month. Stated meetings may be omitted provided that at least one stated meeting is held within each calendar quarter. [~~G-10.0201~~G-3.0203]. ~~Called-Special~~ meetings of the Session may be called by the moderator, the ~~E~~xecutive ~~C~~committee, the ~~P~~resbytery, and when requested in a writing delivered to the pastor, by two of the ~~A~~active ~~E~~lders of the Ssession, consistent with ~~S~~ections ~~G-10.0201, G-10.0103 and G-9.0202a~~ G-3.0203 of the Book of Order and other procedures as set by the Ssession.

Section III-5. Quorum

A quorum of stated and ~~called-special~~ meetings of the Ssession shall be comprised of the pastor (or other approved moderator as provided in ~~S~~ection ~~G-10.0103a~~G-3.0201 of the Book of Order and these bylaws) and one-third of the ~~A~~active ~~E~~lders, except for the reception and dismissal of ~~A~~active ~~M~~embers which may be conducted with the pastor or other approved moderator and two ~~A~~active ~~E~~lders. [~~G-10.0202~~G-3.0203].

Comment [KDM24]: This phrase incorporates the applicable portions of section III-6.

Section III-6. Procedure

A pastor shall be the moderator and the Ssession shall not meet without the presence of the moderator. [~~G-9.0202b~~G-3.0201]. In the event of the sickness or absence of the moderator, an associate pastor shall serve as the moderator with the concurrence of the Ssession. If concurrence is withheld, or if an associate pastor is not available through sickness or absence, the Ssession may, with the approval of the pastor, convene and elect another of its own members to

preside. ~~[G-10.0103a]~~ The moderator shall ~~chair~~ preside at the meeting. Members of the Session ~~Active elders, including the pastor and the associate pastors,~~ are entitled to vote. ~~[G-10.0104G-3.0201]~~. All meetings of the ~~S~~session shall be open to ~~A~~active ~~M~~members except for that portion of any meeting recessed to ~~E~~xecutive ~~S~~session. ~~[G-10.0201]~~ Abstentions shall be permitted. Session may make use of processes of discernment in its deliberations prior to a vote as agreed upon by session. [G-3.0105] Robert's Rules of Order, in the form of its most recent edition, shall apply to any procedure not included in the Book of Order or these bylaws. ~~[G-9.0302G-3.0105]~~.

Comment [KDM25]: This change is designed to make plain the exclusion of the clerk, when the clerk is not an active elder, from voting.

Comment [KDM26]: Probably 80% or more of session's business is conducted not according to Robert's Rules, but ad hoc discernment processes (i.e., free-flowing discussion without any actual motion before the body).

ARTICLE IV – THE BOARD OF DEACONS

Section IV-1. Authority and Responsibilities

The ~~B~~board of ~~D~~deacons shall be responsible for ministry to those who are in need, providing compassion, witness and service to the poor, the hungry, the sick, the lost, to the friendless, the oppressed, those burdened by unjust policies or structures, and to any who may be or anyone in distress both within and beyond the community of faith. ~~[G-2.0201]~~. They ~~deacons~~ shall assume such other duties consistent with the responsibilities of their office as may be delegated to them from time to time by the ~~S~~session. ~~[G-2.0202]~~. The records of the ~~B~~board of ~~D~~deacons shall be submitted to the ~~S~~session at least annually and at such other times at the request of the ~~S~~session. The ~~B~~board of ~~D~~deacons shall be under the supervision and authority of the ~~S~~session. ~~[G-6.0402 through G-6.0404G-2.0202]~~. The ~~B~~board shall present a report to the congregation at the annual meeting. ~~[G-7.0302]~~.

Comment [KDM27]: Basically a direct quote from G-2.0201.

Section IV-2. Organization of the Board

The ~~S~~session shall determine the number of ~~A~~active ~~D~~deacons to serve upon the ~~B~~board of ~~D~~deacons and their term of office within the same limitations as provided ~~for Active Elders serving on the Session~~ in section III-3 for the service of active elders on the session and ~~Section G-14.0201aG-2.0404~~ of the Book of Order. The ~~B~~board of ~~D~~deacons shall elect a moderator, a vice moderator, and a secretary from among its members. The secretary shall keep a record of the ~~B~~board's proceedings. The pastor and associate pastor(s) shall be advisory members without a vote. ~~[G-6.0403a]~~.

Section IV-3. Meetings

The ~~B~~board shall meet regularly, but not less often than quarterly, at the call of its moderator or when directed to meet by the ~~S~~session. The ~~B~~board shall determine its own quorum.

Section IV-4. Assistance of Active Members ~~a~~Appointed by the Session

The ~~S~~session may select and appoint other ~~A~~active ~~M~~members of the congregation to assist the ~~B~~board of ~~D~~deacons or its members individually in their ministry of compassion, witness and service. ~~[G-6.0406]~~ Such request for selection and appointment shall be initiated by the ~~B~~board to the ~~S~~session.

Comment [KDM28]: To conform to the language of IV-1 and G-2.0201.

ARTICLE V – NOMINATIONS

Section V-1. Nominating Committee

The congregation shall form one nominating committee to select and submit nominees for ordered ministry to the congregation at annual meetings or special meetings thereof called for the election of Active ~~Members to the Session and Board of~~ Elders and Deacons. The purpose of the nominating committee's selection and submission of nominees shall be to fill regular terms and vacancies in unexpired terms in either body declared by the Session. Appointment and election of members of the nominating committee shall be conducted under the following rules:

Comment [KDM29]: To clarify that elections can occur at annual meetings too

- (a) ~~T~~here shall be nine voting members on the nominating committee, and a ~~the~~ pastor shall also be a member ex officio and without vote.
- (b) ~~T~~wo of the members shall be Elders appointed by the Session, one of whom shall be an Active Elder currently serving on the Session ~~and additionally appointed by the Session to be~~ who shall moderate ~~or of~~ the nominating committee.
- (c) ~~T~~wo of the members shall be Active Deacons appointed by the Board of Deacons.
- (d) ~~The five of the~~ members who are not Active Elders or Active Deacons or Active Elders elect or Active Deacons elect appointed under subsections (b) and (c) of section V-1 shall be Active Members from the congregation at large and elected by the congregation at the annual meeting or a special meeting.
- (e) Members of the nominating committee shall be elected and appointed annually, their terms extending between annual meetings, and may not serve more than three consecutive terms; and No member shall serve more than three years consecutively.
- (f) ~~T~~he nominating committee shall bring to the congregation nominations only for the number of positions to be filled. ~~[G-14.0201b].~~

Comment [KDM30]: Mandatory in new FOG.

Comment [KDM31]: This seems cleaner to me.

Comment [KDM32]: Again, this is clearer to me, especially since it gets rid of the inaccurate characterization of the two elder members (only one must be an active elder under subsection (b))

ARTICLE VI – CHURCH CONGREGATION FINANCES

Section VI-1. Procedure

The ~~T~~reasurer shall be elected annually by the Session ~~[G-10.0401].~~ and his or her work shall be supervised by the Session. [G-3.0205]. Those in charge of the various funds in the church-congregation shall report at least annually to the Session and more often when requested. Those in charge of funds shall comply with the minimum standards as set out in Sections G-10.0401 G-3.0113 and G-3.0205 of the Book of Order.

ARTICLE VII – ADMINISTRATIVE RESPONSIBILITIES

Section VII-1. Submission of Session Records to the Presbytery

At least once a year, at the direction of the presbytery, the Ssession shall submit its records of proceedings to the Presbytery for its evaluation pursuant to Section G-9.0400G-3.0108a of the Book of Order.

Section VII-2. Records Open to Active Members

Minutes and all other official records of the Ssession are the property in perpetuity of the Ssession. [G-9.0406G-3.0107]. All such records shall be available for review upon reasonable request during the regular business hours of the church-administrative office by any Active Member.

Section VII-3. Staff Employment Policies

The Ssession shall implement employment policies for church-congregation staff positions in accordance with the principles of inclusiveness an representation as provided in Section G-9.0404G-3.0103 of the Book of Order.

Section VII-4. Administration of the Endowment Fund

The Endowment Fund established by the Congregational Resolution on June 19, 1995 shall continue to be administered by the established committee designated as the Endowment Team under the rules and procedures set out in said resolution and incorporated herein by reference.

ARTICLE VIII – DEFENSE AND INDEMNITY FOR ERRORS AND OMISSIONS

Section VIII-1. Defense Against Claims

Upon the timely written request of any officer, employee or registered active, baptized or affiliate member of Grace Covenant Presbyterian Church, the corporation shall provide a defense not otherwise provided through a liability insurer by directly engaging counsel for representation in any civil action or governmental administrative proceeding brought against such officer, employee or registered active, baptized or affiliate member for an act or omission arising out of his or her engagement in activities or employment directly related to the programs and functions of the corporation as directly or impliedly authorized by the Ssession. Such request shall be filed with the Clerk of the Ssession within fifteen (15) days after service of process or written notice of the existence of any potential suit or governmental administrative proceeding. In the event of late filing, the Ssession may, in its discretion, proceed to provide such direct defense independent of that provided by insurance where it finds excusable circumstances for late filing. The Ssession may refuse to provide or may terminate any direct defense if it determines that (1) the act or omission was not within any authorized church-congregation function or activity; (2) the act or omission was prompted by actual fraud or malice; or (3) the officer, employee or registered

Comment [KDM33]: G-1.01 defines the church in its particular context as the "congregation", and we are defending and indemnifying for participation in congregation activities, not "church universal" activities.

active, baptized or affiliate member has not reasonably cooperated in good faith in the defense of the suit or proceeding.

Section VIII-2. Indemnification

Except for damages, fines or penalties paid by insurance, the corporation shall indemnify its officers, employees and registered active, baptized or affiliate members for damages, fines or penalties assessed against them for acts or omissions while acting within the scope of any ~~church~~ congregation function or activity directly or impliedly authorized by the Ssession in the case of officers and registered active, baptized or affiliate members, and while acting within the scope of their employment in the case of employees. The corporation shall not provide indemnification for any punitive or exemplary damages. The corporation shall have the right to refuse indemnification and recover any payments made by it for any judgment, fine or penalty if the officer, employee or registered active, baptized or affiliate member fails to cooperate in good faith in the defense of the claim or action, or if such damages, fines or penalties are assessed pursuant to a ruling that the act or omission is the result of actual fraud or malice. No such indemnification shall be made by the corporation for damages, fines or penalties paid by reason of settlement without adjudication or other ruling unless such settlement is first approved by resolution of the Ssession.

ARTICLE IX – AMENDMENT OF BYLAWS

Section IX-1. Automatic Amendment to Conform to Amendments in the Book of Order

The provisions in the Book of Order on the same subject of any part of these bylaws shall always prevail, and should any amendment to comparable provisions in the Book of Order be declared by the General Assembly or otherwise take effect pursuant to Part II of the Constitution of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.), then the comparable provision of these bylaws shall be deemed to be also amended in consistent form without the necessity of formal congregational amendment as provided in section IX-2 of this article.

Section IX-2. Congregational Amendments

These bylaws may be otherwise amended at any meeting of the congregation by a two-thirds vote of the Active Members present. The proposed amendments in printed form must be made available to the congregation with the public notice of the meeting as provided in sections II-1 and II-2. Any Active Members may propose amendments provided a copy of such proposed amendment is filed with the Clerk of the Ssession at least thirty days prior to the first date of public notice for the annual or special meeting.

Adopted by the annual congregational meeting on January 29~~7~~, 201~~208~~.