

First Congregational United Church of Christ

Summation of Changes to By-Laws of Church

January, 2016

At the 2016 Annual Meeting being held on January 31, 2016 we will be discussing and voting on suggested changes to our By-Laws. Here is a summation of the changes that will be put forth at the Annual Meeting.

1. We are adding a Constitution to our By-Laws. Currently we have an all-in-one document called our By-Laws and in order to make any administrative changes we have to have a vote by the Congregation, after a duly called meeting. The addition of the Constitution allows us to break our governing body into two working documents and allows us to make minor administrative changes, like changing Team names and Team structures through a vote of the Church Council rather than having the entire congregation vote on an administrative change. This will NOT change how we decide on any major changes to the church. Financial matters and staffing matters will still come before the Congregation for their input, discussion and vote.
2. We corrected the church leadership structure and leadership team names listed in the By-Laws to match our current team structure and configuration.
3. We revised the wording of Article IX – Endowment Fund to clarify how bequests and memorial funds given to the church are handled financially. This change was done at the request of the Endowment Team and the Finance, Funding & Stewardship Team so that there is now a clearly defined method of handling these monies given to the church.
4. We eliminated the Clerk position since it is now handled by our Church Administrator.
5. We changed the terms of the Secretary and Treasurer (elected Officers of the Church) from indefinite terms of service to a maximum of 9 years of service, with the agreement of the Church Council, Pastor and Moderators.