

Special Congregation Meeting: Calvary Governance Change Proposal  
August 14, 2018  
7:00 p.m.

Call to Order—Dave Kufahl, Council President

Opening Prayer—Pastor Carol Skjegstad

Welcome and Overview—Heather Hosfield, Council Vice President

- Reason for being here today: The Calvary Council is recommending constitutional and bylaw amendments that are intended to improve our ability to perform our mission
- Two step process approval process: Neither the amended Constitution nor amended Bylaws can take effect unless both are approved by the congregation
  - July 31: Congregation approved the proposed amendments to the Constitution
  - Aug. 14: Congregation ratifies the Proposed Amendments to the constitution and approves Amendments to Bylaws
- Collaborative effort by many, both Council and congregation
- Why should we make these changes?
  - Committees meet and ministries act
  - Clarify roles and responsibilities of staff, council, and congregation
  - Council focused on strategy, vision, and values
  - Better continuity and engagement
- Summary of changes
  - Council size reduced from 33 to 11
  - Exec committee is abolished and all personnel matters to be handled by full council
  - Council terms are four years with elections every other year
  - Council elects officers
  - Nominating committee is largely unchanged but with two year terms
  - No nominations from the floor
  - Roles and responsibilities are clarified
- Nominating Committee Expectations
  - A new bylaw (Amended Bylaws, Section VI) sets forth criteria that the nominating committee should consider:
  - Thirty days notification to allow congregation to prayerfully consider candidates
  - Nominations from the floor would circumvent the nominating committee process
- Explanation of timing and path to new council
- Thoughts and reflections on proposed governance change—Pastor Carol Skjegstad
  - New structure will position Calvary to be most effective at reaching the community and world around us
  - Recent sermons about “games” we play gave us three key takeaways
    - We are better together
    - Conflict resolution: we need to be *good* at it

- Do we each know Jesus, and how are we *compelled* to reach out to those around us in the mission field God has called us to?
  - Baseball: it's easy to get the good players...getting them to play together is the hard part!
    - Christianity is a team sport, and it's a privilege to play on God's team: advancing the Kingdom, rather than our own agendas
    - We each have been created with unique gifts, skills, and passions to live out our calling
    - Romans 12:4-5
  - Exciting time to be here at Calvary—so many opportunities to serve
  - New governance model will enable us to live out our mission more effectively, provided that we all play together on the same team, in the right positions, willing to be used by God
- Amendments
  - Council has been very clear throughout this process that the scope of the changes is limited to governance ONLY
  - The constitution and Bylaws are carefully crafted documents that are interconnected. Changes to wording in one area may have unintended consequences and therefore need to be addressed carefully
  - Council recommends another review of the Constitution/Bylaws in two or three years
- Wrap-Up
  - Council enthusiastically supports making these amendments
  - Updated governance structure will enable us to be more effective at performing our mission
  - These are the *best efforts* of a large and diverse group of Calvary members and the result of hundreds of hours of prayerful deliberation

#### Motion

*Motion to 1) ratify the approval by the congregation of the amendments to the Constitution made at the meeting on July 31, 2018; and 2) amend the Bylaws of Calvary Lutheran Church of Golden Valley as set forth in that document linked on the church's website as "Proposed Reviewed Bylaws (changes marked)" and as made available at this meeting —Steven Opheim; seconded*

#### Discussion

- Support
  - Steven Opheim—we are not only amending our Constitution; we are also renewing our trust in each other...we are like a wheel with spokes around a central hub: Jesus

#### Vote

- "Yes" vote—in favor of motion presented this evening
- "No" vote—opposed to the motion presented this evening

Meeting Recess while votes are counted

Result of vote: Motion passes (96%)

- Out of 170 total votes
  - 2 abstain
  - 164 yes
  - 4 no

Meeting Adjourned

Submitted by: Marisa Houghland