

**BALLOT #1 - CALLED CONGREGATIONAL MEETING - NOVEMBER 17, 2024**

**Proposed Changes to St. Peter's CONSTITUTION (requires two-thirds approval)**

**1. Constitution (version 3/20/24) Article VI. Membership**

***Current Text:***

*A. Anyone who meets the following conditions may become a member of the church:*

- 1. Who accepts Jesus Christ as Lord and Savior, is baptized, endeavors to lead a Christian life; and labor faithfully to bring others to Christ.*
- 2. Who will uphold this church by his/her prayers, regular attendance at divine worship and partaking of Holy Communion. They shall take an active part in the life and work of the church.*
- 3. Who will practice the principles of Christian stewardship, and rendering systematic, proportionate, and generous financial support to the church.  
\*Practice – any amount given within a 2 year period constitutes financial support.*
- 4. Who will subscribe to this Constitution and its Bylaws.*

**Proposed New Text:**

**A. Anyone who meets the following conditions can become a member of the church:**

- 1. Accepts Jesus Christ as Lord and Savior, is baptized, and strives to lead a Christian life.**
- 2. Participates in the life and work of the church by regularly attending worship services and/or other functions of the church (unless physically unable).**
- 3. Practices the principles of Christian Stewardship by regularly giving of time, talent and/or financial support.**
- 4. Subscribes to this Constitution and its Bylaws.**

**Approve \_\_\_\_\_**

**Do not approve \_\_\_\_\_**

**Page 2 - Proposed Changes to St. Peter's CONSTITUTION**

**2. Add "Voting Member" and Redefine "Associate Member"**

**Current Text:**

*C. Associate members are members in standing who wish to retain their primary membership at another church but who also wish to retain membership at St. Peter's Church of Coupland. Associate members are not eligible to be elected to positions of leadership and are not eligible to vote at duly called Congregational Meetings.*

**Proposed New Text:**

**C. Types of membership**

1. "Voting Members" are those who fulfill the conditions listed above in Section A.
2. "Associate Members" are those that either:
  - a. no longer meet the definition of a "Voting Member" but are still interested in being associated with St. Peter's Church.
  - b. have a primary membership in another church, but want to also have a membership associated with St. Peter's Church.

**Associate Members may serve on non-elected Committees/Teams but are not eligible to be elected to Committees/Teams or positions of leadership, and are not eligible to vote at Congregational Meetings.**

**Approve \_\_\_\_\_**

**Do not approve \_\_\_\_\_**

**3. Change the word "Member" to "Voting Member" as applicable in the Constitution.**

**Approve \_\_\_\_\_**

**Do not approve \_\_\_\_\_**

**BALLOT #2 - CALLED CONGREGATIONAL MEETING - NOVEMBER 17, 2024**

**Proposed Changes to St. Peter's BYLAWS (requires majority approval)**

**1. Bylaws (version 3/20/24) Article II. Membership**

**Current Text:**

*F. A member shall partake of Holy Communion, or contribute to the various kinds of support of the church, or regularly participate in public worship. If after two years a member has not fulfilled the above standards of membership, he/she shall be removed from the membership rolls. To this end, the membership list shall be monitored and maintained biannually by the Pastor and the Church Council. Before removal, a faithful attempt will be made to contact the member about this action. In rare and unsafe circumstances, the Church Council may vote to suspend a member's membership (and all the rights and privileges pertaining thereto) for a definite period of time.*

**Proposed New Text:**

**F. A Voting Member shall participate in the life and work of the church. This includes regularly attending worship services and/or other church functions (unless physically unable) and supporting the church financially and/or with time or talent. The membership list shall be reviewed in the fourth quarter of each year by the Pastor and the Church Council. Any necessary changes will be made at that time and the members notified.**

Approve \_\_\_\_\_

Do Not approve \_\_\_\_\_

**2. Change the word "Member" to "Voting Member" as applicable in the Bylaws.**

Approve \_\_\_\_\_

Do Not approve \_\_\_\_\_