

SUGGESTED BYLAW CHANGES

IV. Officers, Officials, Boards and Committees

Section 3. BOARDS

Subsection A – Board of Deacons

Current wording of first paragraph: A Board of Deacons of eight members, also known as the Diaconate, the term of office to be four years, one man and one woman to be elected each year. The Diaconate shares with the Pastor the oversight of the spiritual life of the Church. Deacons will not serve successive elected terms.

RECOMMEND:

A Board of Deacons of six members, also known as the Diaconate, the term of office to be three years, with the goal of a gender diversified Board. Two members will rotate off the board each year with two new members elected onto the Board each year. The Diaconate shares with the Pastor the oversight of the spiritual life of the Church. Deacons will serve no more than two successive terms.

Current wording of second paragraph: Each year the Deacons who are in their fourth year of service will be designated as Senior Deacons, to preside at meetings of the board and to carry out such responsibilities as the Diaconate may determine. If a fourth year Deacon is unable to assume the leadership role, a substitute will be duly elected from the Diaconate membership by the board.

RECOMMEND:

At the first meeting where the newly elected deacons are welcomed, the entire board will elect two members to serve as Senior Deacons to serve a one year term. It will be the Senior Deacons' roles to arrange and preside at meetings of the Board and to be the two primary contacts for the pastor and the congregation.

The remainder of the section for the Board of Deacons is listed following, and we do not have any other suggested changes to this wording.