

Proposed revisions to By-Laws

Amendments for Presentation at Annual Meeting, March 16, 2025

Proposal 1 – Co-Lead Pastor Addition

Rationale:

In 2024, the Elders and Board of Trustees recognized the call for our church to have Co-Lead pastors at SSC for this season of our church's life. It is important to update our by-laws to articulate this is an acceptable model of leadership and how co-leadership is related to our existing by-laws going forward.

Proposed Addition:

8.12 Co-Lead Pastor

8.12.1 The Elders may recommend the appointment of more than one person to share the office and responsibility of the Lead Pastor. The Elders' recommendation to the Trustees will not be unreasonably denied. These Lead Pastors would exercise co-leadership of SSC.

8.12.2 With the appointment of co-leading pastors, all references to 'Lead Pastor' in the SSC by-laws will be understood to refer to the co-leading pastors who will share the office, responsibilities and requirements of Lead Pastor.

Proposal 2 – Quorum & Electronic Attendance at Board Meetings

Rationale:

SSC added the ability for the Board of Trustees to attend meetings virtually in 2021. This by-law limits the number of times a Trustee can attend virtually in a given year, which encourages in-person participation. Other by-laws also express the preference for in-person meetings. This particular quorum requirement has impeded the ability to conduct business and we propose its removal.

Proposed Amendment:

6.6.1 Electronic attendance is permitted for up to two regular board meetings a year.

Original Wording:

6.6.1 Electronic attendance is permitted for up to two regular board meetings a year. A trustee attending in this manner does not count towards a quorum, but retains the right to vote.

Proposal 3 – Quorum at Special Meetings changing By-Laws or Removing Elders

Rationale:

These by-laws define quorum for special meetings where the by-laws are being amended, or there is a rare need to remove an Elder by vote (5.7.1). As our church membership grows in number, the practicality of gathering 1/3 of all voting members has grown less feasible. One quarter is still a larger quorum requirement than a regular annual meeting (15%).

Other safeguards remain in the by-laws requiring sufficient notice to the membership in public gatherings (Sunday services), as well as on our website and other means of communication. These communication requirements ensure that all members know about important meetings and can attend.

Proposed Amendment:

4.3.2 Quorum at members meetings in which there is a motion to change the by-laws or letters patent or to remove elders will be the attendance in person of one-fourth of the regular church membership eligible to vote.

5.7.1 Quorum for this meeting will be one-fourth of the membership of SSC.

Original Wording:

4.3.2 Quorum at members meetings in which there is a motion to change the by-laws or letters patent or to remove elders will be the attendance in person of one-third of the regular church membership eligible to vote.

5.7.1 Quorum for this meeting will be one-third of the membership of SSC.

Complete By-Laws

A complete copy of our by-laws is available for download at:

<https://ssc.church/wp-content/uploads/2025/02/Approved-Current-By-Laws-March-8-2021.pdf>