

Our Redeemer Lutheran Church January 2016 Newsletter

Welcome to the Year of our Lord 2016!

New Constitution in Effect

The new revised Constitution & Bylaws for ORLC are now in effect. While the bulk of the document remains unchanged from the previous one, here are a few notable changes:

- The section in the old Constitution & Bylaws titled "Nature and Mission" has been moved from the Bylaws into the Constitution proper as the section titled "Purpose." This change was made because this section defines what our purpose is as a congregation. Bylaws are meant to be about the mechanics of achieving our ends; the Constitution proper is about defining who we are.

- Coming right after this, at the directive of the BC Government, an article was added to the Constitution clearly stating that we will carry out our activities "without purpose of gain" for

our members, and that "all profit and gains to the organization shall be used in promoting its objectives." This article is also given as "unalterable," thus enshrining our not-for-profit status in our guiding documents.

- The Annual General Meeting no longer has to happen before the end of January. It can happen in January or February. **This year Council has scheduled the AGM for Feb. 7.**

- Council terms now begin immediately after the AGM. Previously they started on June 1.

- Council terms are still 3 years, but there are no limits on how long a person can serve. This change was made to accommodate smaller congregations who have a hard time finding enough people to serve on Council.

- If there is to be a special meeting of Council beyond the scheduled monthly meetings, notice of such a special

meeting must be given to the congregation no less than 21 days prior to the meeting and announced in the worship services that occur during that 21 days. Previously such notice was only 2 days. This change was made to insure that the congregation is kept informed about the Council's activities.

- The voting threshold for constitutional changes has been lowered from 3/4 of those voting to 2/3.

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Pastor Curtis will be on holidays from Dec. 26, 2015 to Jan. 5, 2016. **In case of a pastoral emergency,** contact Jill Gillingham at 250-809-6962.

Remembering People in Our Prayers

Erika Wachowiak
Helen Kemila
Fran Bradley
Friedgard Forbrich
Elli Petersen
Harry &
JoAnn Kapeikis