



The Church of the Palms

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SUN CITY, ARIZONA 85351
(LOCATED ACROSS FROM SUNDIAL REC. CENTER)

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Greetings Church of the Palms,

It is with great excitement that I, on behalf of the task force, present this revised Constitution and ByLaws for your review and approval on Sunday, September 26, 2021. Plans for this revision began in 2019 as it became apparent that our current Constitution and ByLaws, while good documents, were not always consistent with how the church was growing and changing. A kick-off meeting with Bill Lyons, United Church of Christ Southwest Conference Minister, was held in February 2020 to seek direction in proceeding with this revision. A task force was established then formed with the following goals:

- Make the Constitution and Bylaws more streamlined and simplified
- Promote ease in strategic decision making and actions of the Church as it continues to grow in response to changing needs related to its mission
- Maximize use of church member time and talent by providing opportunities to serve for varying lengths of time on boards, teams, committees, and various work groups
- Establish an organizational model to:
 - be responsible for church health, vitality, and overall operations
 - be responsible for ministerial functions of the church, growing and developing people's faith and attracting new members
 - promote effective communication flow between teams, boards, committees, and the congregation

The result is this shortened document which includes the following major changes:

- Decreases number of Council Members from 16 to an Executive Council of 8
- Decreases number of Boards, Teams and Standing Committees from 17 to 11
- Decreases number of elected and appointed positions from 103 to 50
- Allows for appointment of ad hoc committees to conduct time limited projects
- Budget Committee incorporated into Board of Finance
- Nominations Committee changed to Volunteer Engagement Committee with increased focus on orientation of new board, team, and committee members
- Responsibilities, membership, meeting requirements and terms of office consistently defined in ByLaws

Members of the Constitution and ByLaws Task Force will be available for answering any questions you may have at the following times:

- In Person – following church services Sunday, September 12 and 19
- Via the Bridge – Wednesday, September 22 at 12:00 PM and 4:00 PM

You may also send questions to me at judyjondahl@gmail.com or call me at 480-388-0707.

If you are unable to attend the meeting Sunday, September 26, after the service, you can vote by phone between September 21 thru 25 by calling 623-748-3574.

Shalom,