Saint Andrew's Lutheran Church

Council Position Description

The Council is the primary decision-making body of the church and oversees the life and activities of the congregation, and in particular its worship life, to the end that everything be done in accordance with the Word of God and the faith and practice of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America.

The Council consists of the pastors(s), twelve (12) adult members, and one youth member. The basic term of service is three (3) years but it is common to have several positions filled for less than the 3-year duration due to unforeseen resignations, such as work relocation and work conflicts. Membership is determined by a vote at the Annual Meeting from a slate of candidates (constitutionally, the number of adult positions to become vacant plus a minimum of two additional candidates) who are voting members of the SALC Congregation. Voting members are confirmed members who have communed in this congregation during the current or preceding calendar year and have made a contribution of record to this congregation.

The major duties of the Congregation Council include the following (see or go to the SALC Constitution at Church Constitution and Business | Adults | Saint Andrew's Lutheran Church for more information):

- To lead the congregation in stating its mission, to do long-range planning, to set goals and priorities, and to evaluate its activities in light of its mission and goals.
- To seek to involve all members of the congregation in worship, learning, witness, service, and support.
- To oversee and provide for the administration of the congregation to enable it to fulfill its functions and perform its mission.
- To maintain supportive relationships with the pastor(s) and staff and help them annually to evaluate the fulfillment of their calling or employment.
- To be examples individually and corporately of the style of life and ministry expected of all baptized persons.
- To promote a congregational climate of peace and goodwill, and, as differences and conflicts arise, to endeavor to foster mutual understanding.
- To be responsible for the financial and property matters of the congregation.

Key individual responsibilities and expectations of council members:

- Prepare for, attend, and participate in Council meetings held on the second Monday of every month. Regular attendance is important and expected.
- Be an active member of one of the Congregation Committees to which you are assigned, serving as a liaison between the committee and the council. Congregation committees normally meet monthly.
- Attend and participate in council leadership retreats (at least one per year).
- Attend worship and other church activities on a regular basis to become aware of and seek the desires of the Congregation members.