



JONATHAN HUGHES
Pastor

Dear La Verne Heights Church family,

One of the responsibilities of Session is the periodic review of the documents, policies, and procedures that govern the life of LVHPC. To that end, Session has conducted a five-year review of the congregation's bylaws and will be submitting a revised version for your vote at the congregational meeting on February 23rd. The purpose of this letter is to give you some basic information surrounding the proposed changes.

Where can I find the proposed bylaws?

The proposed bylaws can be found both on the church website at www.lvhpc.church and in the churchwide email containing this letter as attachments. The current bylaws are also included if you would like to compare the documents. Our hope is that providing the bylaws electronically will promote responsible stewardship and will reduce paper waste. A limited number of printed copies of both documents will be available in the narthex after worship this Sunday, February 9th. A signup sheet will be available if we run out. Simply add your name and a paper copy will be sent to you.

What changes are included in the proposed Bylaws?

As part of the review process, several resources that offer suggestions for the contents of Presbyterian Church bylaws were consulted. One was from the denomination's national office, while others were from various presbyteries (regional governing bodies). Based on these suggestions, the proposed bylaws are significantly reformatted. That said, we want to draw your attention to two proposed changes:

- We are proposing the bylaws give Session flexibility to set the size of its own membership between nine and fifteen ruling elders. A quorum would be one-half the number of ruling elders installed on Session at a given time. The current bylaws set the size of Session at twelve ruling elders. Ruling elders would still be divided into classes serving three-year terms.
- We are proposing Session elects the President, Treasurer, and Secretary/Clerk of the corporation and then notifies the congregation at a congregational meeting. Currently, Session nominates these individuals, and then the congregation elects them at a congregational meeting. This proposal does not change the makeup of the officers. The President and Treasurer still must be from within Session, while the Secretary/Clerk may be selected from within Session or from outside Session. The proposed bylaws still prohibit any individual from holding more than one corporate officer position at the same time.

Please review the proposed bylaws prior to the congregational meeting on the 23rd. If you have any questions, please speak to me or to a member of Session. We will be voting on the proposed bylaws at that meeting, and they will require a two-thirds majority vote to pass.

On behalf of Session,

Rev. Jonathan Hughes