

Summary of Proposed Changes to Healdsburg Community Church's Bylaws / Articles of Federation

Below is a summary of the recommended changes to the Bylaws and the Articles of Federation. Currently, there are two documents which contain a lot of redundancy and some conflicting practices. The bylaws are the "local rules" of the church's governance and the Articles of Federation is the original document which untied the First Presbyterian Church of Healdsburg and the United Methodist Church of Healdsburg into one church.

Quorums:

- No Quorum defined for Congregational meetings (**recommendation:** 20% which is 30 people)
- Voting Age for Congregational Meetings (**recommendation:** 18 years old, with property-related votes restricted to 21 years old and above)
- Quorum for Council meetings (**recommendation:** 2/3 of Council instead of current 8 of 12 members)

Finance Committee:

- Finance committee appointed by Council (**recommendation:** Council shall appoint a Finance Committee unconstrained by affiliation requirements.)
- Budget approval (**recommendation:** Council has authority to approve budgets)
- Money distribution (**recommendation:** Monies to be given to the Methodist and Presbyterian denominations based on membership affiliations rather than equally)

Nominating Committee:

- Nominating Committee terms (**recommendation:** 3 years instead of 1 year with two one-year renewals)

Governance:

- Articles of Federation & Bylaws (**recommendation:** Combine into one governing document. The Federation articles will serve as preamble to bylaws.)
- Council as Trustees (**recommendation:** Adopt unicameral model. The Council shall be the Board of Trustees.)
- Denominational Council composition (**recommendation:** Remove the requirement that 3 Trustees be Methodist and 3 be Presbyterian)