

Suggestions for changes to the **Messiah Lutheran Church Constitution and Bylaws**
from the November 2008 Voters Assembly for the May 2009 Voters Assembly.

Constitution

Article V – Property Rights

In the event the congregation should totally disband, ... shall be transferred to that District of the Lutheran Church - Missouri Synod of which the congregation has been a member at the time of disbanding, unless a 2/3 majority of the Voters Assembly chooses a different recipient organization. *{allowing for alternate recipient, e.g., in case of LCMS shift}*

Bylaws

Article V – Duties of Officers

B. Vice-Chair

~~... Such appointment shall be ratified by the Voters Assembly.~~ ... *{suggested removal due to low numbers of Voters Assembly meetings}*

D. Treasurer

... The Treasurer shall present a complete report of receipts and disbursements compared with the pro rated budget for inclusion in the minutes of the Voters Assembly, ~~on at least a calendar quarter basis.~~ ... *{quarterly reference indicates a Voters Assembly schedule, in conflict with schedule in Article I – Voters Assembly — A. Meetings}*

E. Assistant Treasurer

~~... All of these books shall be audited annually, and a report of such audit shall be submitted to the Church Council and the Voters Assembly.~~ ... *{duplicate of Audit Committee desc - see below}*

F. Financial Secretary

~~... The books and records of the Financial Secretary shall be audited annually.~~ ... *{duplicate of Audit Committee desc - see below}*

{pertinent Auditing Committee section}

A. ... The Auditing Committee shall make an audit of the books and records of the Treasurer, the Assistant Treasurer, the Financial Secretary, and of such other financial records the audit of which the Voters Assembly may assign to it. ...

Article VI – Duties of Administrative Boards

~~Each Board shall provide periodic reports to the Church Council and Voters Assembly as to how their actual expenditures conform to the pro-rated amount from the congregational budget.~~ *{reporting of boards duplicates Treasurer's reporting function}*

Article VII – Administrative Boards

A. Board of Deacons

The Board of Deacons shall consist of the Pastor, and the elected members, ~~and the Head Usher.~~ *{Head Usher position is not involved with most functions of the Board of Deacons, and has not been at meetings since early 1980s}*

~~Acting to assist the Pastor, and under his direction, the~~ The Board shall concern itself with the spiritual welfare of the Pastor and the congregation and be charged with the supervision of public worship, church discipline, church publications and everything pertaining to congregational worship. *{general statement, not necessary because of details in tasks of the Board of Deacons}*