



## Seeking Names for September 2021 Open Church Council Positions

We are currently seeking Church Council nominations from the congregation. Please submit names that meet the following criteria to Julie Terry at [jterry@stpeters-columbus.org](mailto:jterry@stpeters-columbus.org) by **JANUARY 21, 2021**. Please note that congregation members are not able to serve on the Church Council if they are related to a current employee or a Church Council member.

### **Qualifications per our Constitution and By-Laws**

Only those shall be **eligible to serve** on the Church Council who are confirmed voting members when they assume office and whose qualifications are consistent with those established by God's Word and The Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod.

### **Responsibilities:**

- The Church Council shall provide leadership in coordinating and directing the ministries and governance affairs of the congregation, especially as it involves the mission and ministry of the congregation. To accomplish this, the Church Council shall:
- Work with and support the Senior Pastor, who is responsible for the daily leadership and management of all aspects of the church's mission and ministry. In doing so, the Church Council shall provide for at least an annual review of the Senior Pastor's performance and job description.
- Act upon staffing recommendations that may be required to accomplish the mission and ministry of the congregation. It shall coordinate the call process of the ministry staff.
- Be responsible, for at least every three years, a review of the Constitution and By-Laws of the congregation.
- Responsible for updating and interpreting the Constitution and By-Laws of the congregation.
- Be the legal trustees of the congregation.
- Coordinate an ongoing review of the mission and ministry of the church.
- Ensure communication of the mission and ministry of the church.
- Provide for the planning, direction, and guidance of a ministry planning process and implementation of ministry action plans.
- Provide leadership and guidance for the preparation of the annual budget.
- Submit an annual budget to the congregation at the respective Voters' Assembly meeting.
- Appoint members to each ministry board as prescribed in the By-Laws of the congregation.
- Approves and adheres to all governing policies.
- Be responsible for providing a slate of candidates for annual Church Council elections (typically in May).
- Annually appoints a **Nominating Committee** to create a slate of candidates:
  - Composed of at least three (3) members of Church Council and up to three (3) non-Council members (may include board chairs)
  - Members and chair are appointed by the Church Council chair

- Recommends candidates for membership to the Church Council based on input from boards, staff, and the congregation.
- Perform their duties primarily between February - May of year each.
- The goal is 2 names for each open position, in May to Voters’.

### **Church Council Covenant**

Each of us as members of the Church Council (and boards) of St. Peter’s, recognize that “it’s not about me” but about God and His purposes for His Church in the world. Therefore, we commit ourselves in the following ways:

1. Champion our Purpose, Vision, and ministries.
2. Daily embrace our 12 Characteristics of a Disciple based on Jesus’ teaching from Matthew 5-7, the “Sermon on the Mount”.
3. Uphold our Constitution and fulfill our responsibilities as outlined in the By-laws.
4. Honor our Council (Board) teammates:
  - a. Serve with humility
  - b. Honor, respect and invite the diverse opinions of one another
  - c. Model love for one another by demonstrating patience, mercy and a positive attitude.
  - d. Pursue clarification of others’ ideas and statements that are unclear
  - e. Value and appreciate the unique gifts, abilities and personalities of one another
  - f. Fully participate in regular and special meetings, Voters’, and retreats by preparing in advance, being present and on time, and staying on task.
  - g. Pay attention to what God is saying through each of us corporate and individually
  - h. Honor the confidential nature of our conversation
  - i. Follow through with commitments we have made
  - j. Submit to mutual accountability.
5. Serve our congregational members:
  - a. Serve and lead with humility
  - b. Listen attentively, patiently and respectfully
  - c. Model Christ-likeness
  - d. Accept and communicate that at times it is okay to disagree
  - e. Pray for the needs of our congregation
  - f. Support congregational activities
  - g. Encourage participation
  - h. Clearly articulate the role of the Church Council/Board and help people know where to take specific needs or concerns
  - i. Identify future leaders
  - j. Speak with one voice
  - k. Strive for unity in the body
6. When it comes to our individual lives of worship, Bible study, prayer, etc, we will:
  - a. Tithe our income or have a plan to do so
  - b. Participate in a Small group or Bible class
  - c. Listen to God on a daily basis through prayer, Scripture, etc.
  - d. Participate in worship services on a weekly basis
7. If a member is not able or willing to live by this covenant, the Council (Board) chairman and/or vice-chairman will reach out to the member.