Leadership Council Bylaws

First United Methodist Church of Chula Vista

1200 E H St
Chula Vista, San Diego County, State of California

ARTICLE I. IDENTITY

Section 1.01. These are the Bylaws of the Leadership Council for First United Methodist Church, Chula Vista (FUMCCV).

ARTICLE II. PURPOSES AND POWERS

Section 2.01. The Leadership Council, in accordance with the *The Book of Discipline of the United Methodist Church* (hereafter known as The BOD), will be the decision making body of FUMCCV in between Annual Church Conference meetings, unless The BOD requires or the District Superintendent calls for a special Church Conference.

Section 2.02. The purpose of the new simplified Leadership Council is to allow for more nimble decision making, align the management of the church with 21st century realities of a spiritual community and to allow for more ministry and less management from the laity. The Leadership Council will be focused on the big picture vision and policies for making disciples of Jesus Christ. The day to day operations of the ministry will be managed by the pastor, staff and hands on volunteers.

ARTICLE III. GOVERNANCE

Section 3.01. The Corporation shall look to these Bylaws, The BOD, and the laws of this state with reference to non-profit religious corporations, and Section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code (as amended from time to time) for guidance in the operation of its affairs.

Section 3.02. The BOD will always supersede these Bylaws in all matters of church governance.

ARTICLE IV. SINGLE BOARD MODEL

Section 4.01. In accordance with The BOD, in order to more effectively complete the mission of making disciples for Jesus Christ, FUMCCV has made the choice to move to an alternate form of governance. The church is choosing to place the functions of the former Administrative Committees (Staff/Pastor Parish Relations Committee, Trustees, Finance Committee, and Church Council) into a single council. All of the BOD functions of these former Administrative Committees will be handled by this single council. This does not include the Nominations and Leadership Development Committee (NLDC). This committee will remain in place, according to BOD guidelines. Other ministry teams such as Worship, Men's Ministry, Women's Ministry, Missions, etc., will also remain.

Section 4.02. The single council will be named The Leadership Council and will conduct business following Robert's Rules of Order.

ARTICLE V. MEMBERS

Section 5.01. The Leadership Council will be made up of nine elected members of the church, with the following serving as ex officio members: the appointed clergy, the Director of Finance and Administration and the Lay Leaders. Only the elected nine members will have a vote. Other church staff can have a voice on the Leadership Council but cannot vote and their participation will be at the discretion of the Leadership Council Chair and/or Lead Pastor. Only one person from an immediate family shall serve on the Leadership Council.

Section 5.02. The NLDC will nominate the Council members to the Church Conference each year. In addition the NLDC will nominate which members of the nine will be presented to the Church Conference to serve as the Leadership Council Chair, Finance Chair, Pastor Parish Relations Chair (replacing the former Staff Parish Relations Committee), Lay Delegate to Annual Conference and Leadership Council Secretary. At the first meeting of each new year, the Leadership Council will elect a Trustee Chair to satisfy the corporate resolution requirement.

Section 5.03. Except for the initial creation of the Leadership Council, each elected member shall serve a three-year term and shall not immediately repeat a three-year term, but can serve as a member of the Leadership Council once they have not served on the Leadership Council for two consecutive years, unless exempted by special circumstances by vote of the Church Conference.

Section 5.04. In the event that a Leadership Council member is unable to fulfill the three-year term, the NLDC shall fill the vacancy with an eligible church member to serve the remainder of the current calendar year as an interim member. At the next Church Conference meeting the NLDC will supply a nomination to complete the departed member's three year term on the Leadership Council.

ARTICLE VI. MEETINGS

Section 6.01. The Leadership Council will meet at least two times per quarter. It shall meet additionally at the request of the Bishop, the District Superintendent, the Lead Pastor, or the chairperson of the Leadership Council. The Leadership Council shall meet only with the knowledge of the Lead Pastor or the District Superintendent. The Lead Pastor shall be present at all meetings unless he/she voluntarily excuses him/herself. The Leadership Council may meet with the District Superintendent without the Lead Pastor present as long as the Lead Pastor is informed in advance of such meeting and shall be brought into consultation immediately thereafter.

Section 6.02. A quorum shall be considered more than 50% of the voting members. No business shall be conducted if a quorum is not present. There are no proxies. Members may be present through calls or in person. The agenda and significant items must be shared with all members during meetings.

Section 6.03. Each quarter the Leadership Council will invite all Program Staff and Ministry Team Leaders to attend one of the meetings. The purpose of this meeting is for mission & ministry planning, collaboration and sharing of administrative reports. This meeting can serve as one of the two quarterly meetings.

Section 6.04. Leadership Council members will be expected to attend 75% of all Leadership Council activities each year. In the event this expectation cannot be met, the NLDC will nominate a replacement at the next Church Conference meeting.

ARTICLE VII. RESPONSIBILITIES OF THE LEADERSHIP COUNCIL

Section 7.01. The Leadership Council sets all Church Operations Policies (e.g., annual budget, personnel policies, maintenance contracts). These policies should not try to include rules for every conceivable situation but should instead be rather broad in their writing. The Church Operations Policies can be changed by a majority vote of the Leadership Council. The responsibility of creating and approving all Church Operations Policies shall be in accordance with The BOD.

Section 7.02. The other primary responsibility of the Leadership Council is to function as the Pastor Parish Relations Committee, monitoring the performance of the Lead Pastor and relating to the District Superintendent and Bishop in regards to all appointment concerns pertaining to the Lead Pastor. The responsibility shall be performed in accordance with The BOD.

ARTICLE VIII. THE PASTOR

Section 8.01. The Lead Pastor has the responsibility, authority, and accountability to serve as the primary leader of FUMCCV according to the provisions of the BOD as administered by the District Superintendent and Bishop. The Lead Pastor, in conjunction with the laity and staff, will define the vision of the church. The Lead Pastor will be fully responsible for the management of the staff.

ARTICLE IX. THE STAFF

Section 9.01. The staff manages the day to day church operations and equips the laity for the ministry to which each is called.

ARTICLE X. THE LAITY

Section 10.01. The laity, recognizing that all are called in Baptismal vows to be servants of Jesus Christ, conducts the ministry of the church in order to make new and stronger disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world. The Leadership Council, per BOD guidelines, has the responsibility to form any new Ministry Committees that are deemed necessary for the laity to fulfill the ministry of the church.

ARTICLE XI. AMENDMENTS

Section 11.01. These Bylaws, having been approved by the Church Conference dated _____, may only be amended by a majority vote at a subsequent Church Conference.

Bylaws effective as of _____ _____

Secretary