



The First Congregational Church

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January 10th 2018

Dear Members and Friends,

The Board of Trustees is recommending two additions to the FCCOL By-Laws. They specify the creation of two new standing committees of the Board of Trustees, namely a Communications Committee and a Preservation Fund Committee. It is the judgement of the Board of Trustees and the Church Council that these two new responsibilities should have specific and permanent committee assignments so that the functions receive proper attention over the long term.

f. The Communications Committee shall be responsible for developing and implementing a comprehensive and ongoing communications program for the church. The goals of the program will be to: Inform the wider community of the activities and missions of the church; to inform, motivate and increase the involvement of the church membership in the ministries of the church; and to attract and encourage new members to the congregation. The committee will solicit from and be responsive to guidance from the clergy, boards and committees and from the congregation at large. Avenues of communication will include, but not be limited to: the church website, worship bulletins and monthly newsletters, social media, the press and broadcast outlets, and any other means the committee deems appropriate.

g. The Preservation Fund Committee shall be responsible for administering ,raising funding for and approving disbursements from the Preservation Fund. The purpose of this separate perpetual Fund is to support the long term major maintenance and preservation needs of the church. The fund will be managed in the custody of a professional investment advisor under the supervision of the Endowment Committee, with investment strategy and results periodically reviewed by the Endowment and Preservation Fund Committees and presented to the Board of Trustees. Specific policies for disbursements from the Fund shall be written by the Committee and approved by the board of Trustees. The Preservation Fund Committee shall consist of at least three members: one from the Board of Trustees, one from the Endowment Committee, and at least one other member from the congregation at large.

Proposed changes to the church by-laws require a favorable two-thirds vote of active members present at a congregational meeting. These proposed additions will be on the agenda for the FCCOL Annual Meeting on January 28th, 2018, calls for which have been posted in the church and in the bulletins and newsletter. The Board of Trustees and Church Council have approved and strongly recommend a vote in favor of these additions.

Sincerely, Michael E. Gentry
Chair, Church Council

David A. Long
Chair, Board of Trustees