

Three Important Questions About Our Called Business Meeting Tonight

1. What are we doing tonight?

At tonight's business meeting we are presenting a unanimous proposal from the Church Council to change our bylaws concerning membership.

- **Article IX** in our bylaws describes how the church may change the bylaws. Section 2, entitled "Amendment" reads as follows: "This constitution and bylaws may be amended at any regular or special business meeting by a vote of a majority of the members present, provided the amendment has been presented in writing at a business meeting of the congregation held at least one month prior to the action to amend."
- So, we are only presenting the proposed amendment and inviting discussion by the church tonight. We are not voting tonight on this change. We will vote without further discussion at our regularly scheduled Family Gathering, January 22, 2012.

2. What is the proposal from the Church Council?

The proposal from the Church Council is to change part (3) of Article I in our bylaws to read as follows:

By acceptance of a statement of faith made through any Christian tradition, including infant baptism with subsequent confirmation, in consultation with the pastor or other staff member.

3. What is the present reading of the bylaws?

Article I. Church Membership, Section 1 "Candidacy," presently reads in full:

Church Membership

Section 1. Candidacy

All persons who accept Jesus Christ as Savior and Lord may offer themselves as candidates for membership in this church. All such candidates shall be welcomed into membership at any regular church service in any of the following ways.

- (1) By a profession of faith to be followed by baptism.
- (2) By transfer of membership from another Baptist church.
- (3) By acceptance of a statement of a prior conversion experience and believer's baptism by immersion in another church and upon the recommendation by the pastor or other ministerial staff.

The Church Council proposal addresses part (3). Again, we are presenting and discussing this proposal tonight, but will not vote until the January 22, 2012 Family Gathering, per direction of our bylaws.

November 30, 2012