



In this edition of the e-Beacon, you have been informed of the Nominating Committee's request for your input on open positions on the Audit Team, Church Council, Nominating Team, and Synod Assembly attendees for 2010. The Council has approved the new process of reaching out to our Members for input and recommendations for these important positions in our Church.

I thought I would take this opportunity to remind you of the role of a Council Member, explain the make-up of Council and highlight the characteristics that the Nominating Team looks for in a candidate for Council. So as you think about referring to the Nominating Team, please keep these characteristics in mind. As always, we are happy to speak with you if you have questions.

At Light of Christ, the Congregational Council is made up of six members of the congregation, the Senior Pastor and one Associate Pastor as designated by the Senior Pastor. Each member (except the pastors) is elected to serve a three year term, with two new members elected at the annual congregational meeting each year (meaning in any given year there are two new members, two members in their second year, and two members serving their third year. This provides continuity as well as leadership transition). All members serve as officers and trustees of the congregation. Positions of President, Vice-President, Secretary and Treasurer are chosen each year from among the six members. The specific duties of the council are listed in the Constitution, as well as in the section entitled "Officer Position Descriptions".

Our Congregational Council acts more like a board of directors and less like a congress of all ministries. They perform more of the executive board role, providing overall leadership, guidance and long-range planning, discerning the future direction of ministry as well as insuring the financial and spiritual integrity of the ministry.

Characteristics that the Nominating Team look for in a Council Member include (1) A strong faith in God, following Jesus in one's life, (2) A commitment to LOC's Mission and Values. It is very important that the council member know what these are and apply these values in their everyday life. (3) The council member should have gifts for leadership, such as discernment, prayerfulness, wisdom, and courage. (3) Other important characteristics for the council member include capability and willingness to keep confidential information confidential. (4) With these characteristics in mind, they must be a team player and support the team's decisions.

Your leaders are asked to be visionary, yet they cannot see into the future. While your leaders do not know what tomorrow holds, they do know Who holds tomorrow.

Jack Belford
Council President