

**All Souls Church Council**  
**White Paper**

November 2020

Prepared by Julia Washburn, Church Moderator

**Purpose:**

- Disseminate Church goals and enact them through lay leaders.
  - Convene church lay leaders.
  - Work collaboratively with Executive Team to accomplish goals.
  - Support lay leadership development.
  - Advise the Executive Team and Board.

**Composition:**

- Moderator, Chair of the Church Council
- Assistant Secretary of the Board, responsible for taking minutes of meetings of the Church Council and maintaining a membership roster for the Council
- Chairs of all standing committees (board committees or implementation committees)
- Conveners of all ad hoc committees
- Leaders of Church organizations and activities
- Officers of the Church

**Duties:**

- Programmatic duties
  - Share information, coordinate programs, and advise the Executive Team and the Board. Bylaws (Art. XI, Sec. 8).
  - As needed, be a forum where ongoing complaints and concerns about the church can be raised and suggestions made for their resolution. PGF (Part II, Sec. G).
  - Provide input to the Executive Team on their strategic priorities. PGF (Part IV, Sec. B(3), Communication).
  
- Leadership duties
  - Broaden lay leadership and nominate individuals to be on LDNC. Bylaws (Art. XI, Sec. 8)
  - Work with LDNC, the Board, and the Executive Team to identify leadership gaps and recruit new and emerging leaders, Bylaws (Art. XIII, Sec. 3(b)).
  - Nominate individuals to serve on the LDNC. Bylaws (Art. XI, Sec. 8).

*NOTE: The programmatic duties of the Council have significant overlap with the Executive Team. Therefore, the Executive Team can use the Church Council to assist them in accomplishing certain tasks or objectives.*

**Goals for 2021:**

- Support the culture of shared leadership and ministry.
- Clarify membership of all committees and organizations; assist in cleaning membership data.
- Promote lay-leadership development.
- Implement the 8<sup>th</sup> Principal through lay leadership.
- Enhance communications.
- Begin thinking about 200<sup>th</sup> Anniversary.

**Meetings:**

- The Council will meet three times between December 2020 and June 2021 for 2.5 hours each.

**Next Steps:**

- Establish membership email list.
- Send email to all Council members.
- Call every Council member to discuss the Council personally.
- Convene three Council meetings by June 2021.
- Develop Terms of Reference.
- Plan 8<sup>th</sup> Principal Workshop for February with Rev. Rob

**Draft Meeting Plan for First Council Meeting in December:**

Draft Outcomes:

- 1) Create fellowship among Church Council members.
- 2) Share information about Council purpose and goals.
- 3) Share advance organizer for Council business for the remainder of the Church year.
- 4) Meet Executive Team, Board Chairs, and Staff.
- 5) Provide an overview of how the Church works.
- 6) Obtain input on Church Governance and 8<sup>th</sup> Principal.
- 7) Introduce the Council's role in lay-leadership development.

Draft Agenda:

- Chalice Lighting (Rev. Kathleen)
- Introductions (Julia and Group)
- Council Overview (Julia)
- Meet Ministers, Staff, and Board Chairs (Rev. Kathleen; Traci)

- Update/input on Church Governance (Libby; Neil)
- How the Church Works (Traci)
- Input on 8<sup>th</sup> Principal (who?)
- Council Role in Leadership Development (Taquienna and Maya)
- Council Role in Updating Membership Rosters (Gary)
- Preview Next Meeting (Rev. Rob)