

CONTINUING RESOLUTION

CR12.04.D02. CATECHISM COMMITTEE

WHEREAS, a stated purpose of this congregation is to teach the Word of God (*C4.03.d.); and

WHEREAS, all candidates for confirmed membership in this congregation require the approval of the Congregation Council (*C8.03.); and

WHEREAS, each ordained minister with a congregational call shall, within the congregation, offer instruction and confirm (*C9.03.b.1.); and

WHEREAS, this congregation has made catechetical instruction an area of concern for the Christian Education Committee, which committee is a standing committee of the Congregation Council (B12.15.02.a.);

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that Trinity Evangelical Lutheran Church, Latrobe, PA (hereafter church) shall maintain a Catechism Committee, which committee shall operate as a subcommittee (B12.15.03.b.) to the Christian Education Committee (B12.15.02.a.) of the Congregation Council. The Catechism Committee shall function and operate as described below.

I. FUNCTION

1. Establish the criteria by which those seeking confirmation shall obtain the recommendation of the Catechism Committee as a confirmed member of this congregation (*C8.02.b.). Such recommendations shall be at the discretion of the Catechism Committee and presented to the Congregation Council for consideration. Final determination as to acceptable qualifications as a confirmed member of this congregation shall be made by the Congregation Council, with subsequent confirmation performed by an ordained minister of this congregation.
2. Early in the confirmation program, the committee shall arrange a meeting with the parents and the confirmands for the ministry team to explain fully the confirmation process and the expectations, including participation in worship, catechetical instruction and service, which must be satisfied to be confirmed as a member of this congregation. A "Catechism Handbook" or written letter setting forth the expectations for confirmation should be given or sent each confirmand.
3. Establish the annual calendar of confirmation classes and events for each catechetical instruction year. Such calendar of events should include a "confircamp," service projects, and fellowship opportunities. Plan, organize and conduct or oversee confirmation program events and activities.
4. Review published resources and annually establish the curriculum for the catechetical instruction and related Sunday Church School classes for the confirmation study grades (i.e., seventh and eighth grades). A preference shall be given to materials endorsed or published by the ELCA.
5. Provide for catechetical instruction to the confirmands.
6. Work with the Small Group Guides and Sunday Church School teachers (e.g., Huddle meetings) in coordinating the entire confirmation program and various committee chairpersons to fully involve the confirmands in the life of this church.

II. OPERATION

1. The Catechism Committee should include at least six (6) voting members of this congregation (*C8.02.c.), including, as ex-officio members, the ELCA rostered ministry staff members of this congregation. Members of the Catechism Committee should be approved annually by the Christian Education Committee. There is no limitation on length of continuous service on the Catechism Committee.

2. The chairperson of the Catechism Committee shall be an ELCA rostered ministry staff member of this congregation and shall be selected by the ELCA rostered ministry staff team with subsequent approval (B12.15.03.b.) by the Christian Education Committee (B12.15.02.a.). There is no limitation on length of continuous service as chairperson of the Catechism Committee.
3. The Catechism Committee should strive to meet at least quarterly and shall meet at the request of the chairperson of the Catechism Committee (II.2.), the Christian Education Committee (B12.15.02.a.), the Congregation Council, an ELCA rostered ministry staff member of this congregation, or officer (C11.01.) of this congregation.