

PROPOSED: Policy of Church Council:

It is the policy of the First United Methodist Church to be inclusive. All members of the church are welcome and encouraged to participate in the meetings of the Church Council, our local governing authority. Only council members may vote, but all are welcome to take part in discussion.

To ensure that all church members are aware of what will be considered at Church Council:

- Any action items to be considered for the agenda must be submitted to the chair and vice chair of the church council 7 days before the meeting.
- The vice chair will be responsible for ensuring that the agenda is placed on the web site and a summary of the major items on the agenda for Church Council are communicated via e-news, weekly printed announcements, and Facebook before the meeting.
- The summary also will be provided to the worship leaders, who will share the information at the following Sunday services and remind everyone that all members of the church are welcome to participate in council meetings.
- All supporting materials of action items and ministry reports should be submitted to the chair of the church council five days before the meeting and he/she will be responsible to ensure they are distributed to council members no later than three days prior to the meeting.
- The council will hold two hearings on a proposed action item before bringing it, with modifications, to a vote. Should amendments on second reading change the proposal so radically that its basic intent changes, the council should consider delaying its vote one more month.

These deadlines for action items and reports may be overridden by a $\frac{3}{4}$ vote of the council members in attendance at the meeting.

Following the meeting, the vice chair of church council will be responsible for the distribution of a summary of the meeting. He/she will ensure that a short and long summary from the Church Council meeting is written within two days of the meeting. The longer version should be submitted for Prevue, put on the web and placed on both the WIRED and Traditional services' Facebook pages with a photo. The shorter version should be submitted for the Sunday printed announcements and e-news with a link to the full report on the web.

Minutes of the meeting will be written by the secretary and submitted to the chair within 5 days of the meeting. The chair will be responsible to ensure they are distributed to the council members within 7 days of the meeting.

This policy only applies to Church Council, but its concepts should be honored in new governing structure.