

The Congregational Church of Chirstian Fellowship (CCCF)

2026 Congregational Elections Plan Highlights

Purpose

- To enable the Congregational Church of Christian Fellowship to fulfill its mission to honor God, develop Christians, connect people and love everyone.
- To enable the active CCCF members to exercise their shared responsibly to support the ministry of CCCF, and covenant with each other and God to build our community of Christians emphasizing respect for one another, nurturing love, accountability, and a shared responsibility to create an environment that makes it easy for God's spirit to move in our midst.
- To enable an easy, reliable and effective means for the congregation to select and empower its lay leadership.
- To increase the likelihood that church will be sustained and able to grow.
- To increase the likelihood of excellent, reliable and legal stewardship of church resources.
- To ensure that the church is operating in accordance with CA law and the church's by-laws.

Success criteria

- The church thrives spiritually and financially.
- It is obvious to CCCF members, visitors and the community at large that CCCF is living and fulfilling its mission.
- The congregation collectively, through Pastoral leadership and members acting through the church's structure, discerns God's will for the church.
- Members support the ministries of the church donating their time, talents and treasure.
- Numerous qualified church members are willing and able to accept leadership roles and build a beloved community.
- The church functions according to its by-laws with a spirit of our living God.
- The church experiences no breaches of trust, threats or challenges to its viability as an organization.
- People of all ages look forward to and enjoy coming to CCCF

Strategy

- Hold a "Special Meeting" (as described in the by-laws) to elect officers. The elections of officers according to the By-Laws happen at the beginning of each year at the Annual Meeting. However, this has not been done for many years, and we do not have any officers elected. The Pastor can call a special meeting at the request of 10 active members. Because of the urgency of our situation and so we can begin the year with a budget and proceed on solid footing, we will hold

a Special Meeting and elect officers as soon as practicable. They will start working together soon after the elections.

- Vote to delegate the authority of the by-laws established officers for which we do not have candidates, (Vice Moderator, Clerk, Parliamentarian for example), to the officers we will elect.
- Vote to empower the elected officers to accomplish the work of the boards that we do not have (Board of Public Relations, Board of Stewardship for example).
- Encourage the newly elected Lay Leaders to create “Also Know As” names for the existing boards (Church Council AKA Leadership Team or another appropriate name).
- Use the elections to build community, confidence in the lay leadership and appreciation of the church mission.
- Enable as many people as possible to become eligible and to vote.
- Make the elections process easy to understand and participate in.
- Hold the elections in a manner the engenders support of the process and those who are elected.

Mountain Tops

- Introduce the return to church elections
- Enable members to become active and eligible to vote
- Introduce the candidates
- Hold the elections and announce the results

Timeline

By August 2nd make the election documents available and distribute the “Membership Census Form” to be completed and submitted by August 17th (so by August 30th we can notify people that they are eligible to vote and prepare the “voter role” and proxy statements)

By August 29th recruit at least one qualified and willing candidate for as many positions as possible at least a month before the elections.

By September 5th hold at least one “Meet the Candidates” meeting via zoom.

On September 27th and October 4th hold elections at “Special Meeting(s)” for the purpose of in-person and proxy voting after worship service.

Resources

- Time, attention and energy of Stani, Alice, the Sustainability & Growth Committee members and Pastor
- Minimal budget for producing documents