



The purpose of the WELS Arizona-California District Committee on Constitutional Matters is to help congregations in our district as they work through the process of creating or revising governing documents which establish the structure and regular operations of their ministry. This is in keeping with Article XIX, section 2 of the Constitution of our District, which states:

“The committee shall examine the constitution and bylaws of congregations applying for membership in the district and make its recommendation to the convention. ... The committee shall also approve revisions of constitutions and bylaws of congregations of the district.”

During this past biennium, the WELS AZ-CA DCCM reviewed and approved changes to governing documents for the following congregations:

Shepherd of the Hills Ev. Lutheran Church, Las Vegas, NV (Constitution and Bylaws) – January 2011  
Canyon Day Ev. Lutheran Church, Whiteriver, AZ (Constitution and Bylaws) – June 2011  
East Fork Ev. Lutheran Church, Whiteriver, AZ (Constitution and Bylaws) – June 2011  
King of Kings Ev. Lutheran Church, Apache Junction, AZ (Constitution and Bylaws) – June 2011  
Peace Ev. Lutheran Church, Rio Rancho, NM (Constitution and Bylaws) – June 2011  
Beautiful Savior Ev. Lutheran Church, Las Vegas, NV (Constitution and Bylaws) – September 2011  
Cross of Christ Ev. Lutheran Church, Kingman, AZ (Constitution and Bylaws) – November 2011

The following congregations have submitted changes to their governing documents and are currently in the process of responding to our review:

Grace, Bisbee, AZ (Constitution and Bylaws) – January 2012  
Redeemer, Tucson, AZ (Bylaws) – April 2012

If any congregation of our district is considering revisions to their own governing documents, we ask that they would contact our committee’s chairman early in the process. We also suggest that they refer to the *Model Constitution and Bylaws* which is available for order from Northwestern Publishing House in printed and/or CD-ROM versions. Upon their request, we are happy to provide congregations with any additional information which may assist them in their revisions. We want to remind our district congregations that our district has agreed that no changes or revisions to a congregation’s governing documents should be approved by the voters of that congregation until those changes have been reviewed and approved by our committee.

As a final note, we also want to ask the congregations of our district for their cooperation as we seek to move our records into a fully electronic format. If you have an electronic version of your congregation’s current constitution and bylaws which has been approved by your voters, please send a copy of that file to our chairman at jimwinterstein@juno.com . For congregations without electronic versions, please mail a printed copy of your current, approved constitution to our secretary at Salem Lutheran Church, 6701 E Osborn Rd, Scottsdale, AZ, 85251. Our secretary will scan the document and submit the file to our chairman on your behalf.

We thank you for the privilege of assisting the congregations of our district in this way. To God alone be the glory!

Serving you in Christ,

Rev. James H. Winterstein, Chairman

Rev. Martin P. Spaude

Rev. Joshua E. Stahmann, Secretary