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Churches of the FEBC,

Greetings from the staff and the International Board of Directors.

We have been working hard to identify areas that could be strengthened or refined within our organization. One result of these efforts is the realization that our Constitution (2013) is in need of revision. The Directors have proposed specific revisions, which can be reviewed in the separate document: "*FEBC Constitution 2019 Proposed Revisions.*"

To comply with our Constitution, any proposed amendments must be presented to the Fellowship churches for consideration at least three months before our annual meetings. This letter and accompanying proposal constitute notification that these revisions will be subject to ratification at our annual meetings which will begin on July 12, 2019 (during Connect19).

Please distribute this information to your church leadership and/or members (according to your church policy) for consideration. Your church should provide instructions to your delegates regarding how they will vote during the annual meetings.

In compliance with the Constitution (and for the efficiency of the meetings), we ask that if your church has questions or concerns regarding these proposed revisions, please bring them to my attention (or that of any Director) as soon as possible. This discussion could result in clarity which precludes the need for motions to amend during the meeting, or provide us with the knowledge that time should be added for such motions and associated discussion to occur.

The document "*FEBC Constitution 2019 Proposed Revisions*" shows all current text, along with proposed revisions. Text which would be removed is crossed out, while text that would be added is underlined. Along the right hand margin are notes regarding the intended purpose of each revision. These notes are color coded to indicate the category of each revision. Following is a general description of the four categories of recommended revision:

1. **Grammatical/formatting corrections** – These are mostly corrections which would need to be made if all other adjustments are made, however there are a few spots where existing verbiage or format should be corrected for ease of reading or consistency.
2. **Corrected to match current policies/structure** – These are items in our Constitution that are not in line with our current organization. For example, the Doctrinal Council has never been formed, and we no longer have an Administrator.

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3. **Adjusted to remove unwarranted specificity** – Our current Constitution is more specific than generally accepted standards. For instance, the Vision Statement is included, even though this statement will change from time to time. In addition, specific Commissions and Staff positions are listed. This specificity prevents us from setting a new vision or restructuring our organization without a Constitutional amendment.
 - Two specific adjustments in this area are worth mentioning:
 - a. Commissions – We propose that two commissions be labeled “standing commissions,” which would continue to be listed in the Constitution, with specific duties and responsibilities spelled out there: The *Commission on Churches* and the *Commission on Church Planting*.


All other commissions would be “special commissions,” which are set up to address a specific area of ministry or focus and can be adjusted over time. This allows the Directors more flexibility in addressing current needs efficiently without asking for constitutional amendments on a recurring basis.
 - b. Staff members – Rather than listing multiple staff, the proposed revision refers only to the President and “Other Employees” as assigned. Again, this allows greater flexibility without frequent amendments.

4. **Adjusted to increase participation in leadership** – In an effort to increase participation from member churches in filling the positions of director and commission member, we propose that some of the criteria for these positions be adjusted in order to encourage greater participation.

Hopefully, each of these recommendations will be clear as you examine the proposed revisions. Again, please review this document and let us know if you have questions or concerns at your earliest opportunity.

Thank you for your assistance in this matter, and for your continued support of the FEBC. Please pray for us as we prayerfully seek the best future for our Fellowship. We look forward to seeing you this summer at Connect19, and we are privileged to serve you through our work.

With the Directors,



Kevin Stone

President

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