

## **CHURCH LAW No. 2 / 2023**

### **NORTHEASTERN EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH IN SOUTH AFRICA**

At its meeting on 21 July 2023 Church council of NELCSA resolved in terms of sections 60, 61 and 62 of the Constitution of NELCSA to submit the following amendment to the Constitution of NELCSA to Church synod for consideration and adoption.

Legend: ~~Deleted items~~; **New items**; Existing law

## **CHURCH LAW No. 2 / 2023**

### **Congregational Code, Section 17 (2) to be amended and Section 17 (3) to be added**

#### **Section 1**

##### **Section 14 Convening of Meetings**

- (1) General Meetings of the congregation shall be convened by Congregational Council.
- (2) Congregational Council determines the time and date of the meeting.
- (3) As a rule, Notice of Meeting shall be conveyed to the members of the congregation according to local custom at least 2 weeks prior to the date fixed for the meeting. It shall also be announced during worship services.
- (4) The Notice of Meeting shall include the agenda.

##### **Section 17 Quorum**

- (1) A minimum of \_\_\_\_ (NUMBER to be inserted by congregation after decision at General Meeting.) voting members present shall constitute a quorum, provided that the meeting was properly convened in terms of Section 14.
- (2) If a quorum of an otherwise properly called meeting cannot be established due to insufficient participation, the Chair shall give notice, within two weeks, of another meeting in terms of section 14, without change of agenda, at which those members present shall constitute a quorum irrespective of the provisions of section 17 (1) of the Congregational Code. This fact shall be recorded in the minutes of the meeting.
- (3) No less than three voting members shall ever constitute a quorum.

**Section 2** This Law shall come into effect with its adoption on 23 October 2023.

#### **Motivation:**

*A congregation must retain its ability to function, even if a General Meeting is not quorate. The amendment allows the congregation to continue its business even if a quorum is not established in the first meeting.*