

Proposed Bylaw Changes FAQ

July 2022

- **Why are we changing the bylaws now?** We are a growing church functioning in more modern times. The bylaws have not been significantly revised in almost 35 years. Our growth will be enhanced by streamlining and updating our institutional structure. We also need to embrace and incorporate updated religious, non-profit legal requirements, and governance best practices.
- **Will our Bible-based theological foundations change in any way?** No, they will not. Browncroft's governing "*Articles of Faith*" remain the same with no changes from those approved in our current bylaws. Unlike the previous bylaws proposal put forth to the congregation in 2019, these proposed bylaws changes do not include any changes to *Articles of Faith*.
- **Will the Members and Elders still lead the church in congregational fashion?** Yes. Official voting Members (we now have more than 800 Members) will continue to exercise the responsibility of electing Browncroft church officers, approving the annual budget, and voting on significant church business outlined in the bylaws. Members will continue to vote to elect members of the Browncroft Pastoral Staff as recommended by the Board of Elders.
- **How will the staff change?** The leadership and management roles of the Senior Pastor, Executive Pastor, pastoral staff, and ministry leaders will not change. They will be report to the Board, and the Elders would be overseers and encouragers of the staff. Our pastors and ministry directors will be responsible for leading worship services, teaching God's truth from the Bible, directing church ministry programming, recruiting, and deploying many hundreds of gifted volunteers, guiding our missions and service endeavors, and managing the resources of the church in fulfillment of our goals and purposes.
- **How will the church structure change?** Modernizing the church for growth into a bigger and more effective ministry community requires that we simplify and streamline our structure and our leadership practices. The proposed new bylaws accomplish that goal. Browncroft will have fewer formal committees and institutional teams as we look to the future. The Board, Pastoral Staff, and our membership will exercise more flexibility to address ministry needs and respond or innovate to new opportunities more quickly as needed and desired in the future.
- **Have our mission and values changed?** No. Our mission and values remain unchanged. Our mission remains to invite people into a life-changing relationship with Jesus to make and mobilize disciples (Article I, Section 1.2). In addition, we added a section to document the unique aspects and values of Browncroft Church that states our commitment to Biblical teaching, small group community, local outreach, global missions, and family discipleship (Article I, Section 1.3).