

Legal Checklist for Congregations

I. COI	RPORATE/GOVERNANCE
a.	Is the congregation incorporated?
b.	Are annual state filings (if required) up to date?
c.	Are Articles of Incorporation correct (have correct name, etc.)?
d.	Who is registered agent?
e.	Has constitution been updated? Since 2013?
II. <u>TA</u>	
a.	Are W-2's/1099's being issued?
b.	Are contributions being acknowledged?
c.	Is congregation part of ELCA Group Exemption (or does it have its own)?
d.	Does congregation have state sales tax exemption?
e.	Does congregation have real estate tax exemption?
III. <u>PR</u>	<u>OPERTY</u>
a.	Is title clear (or are there deed restrictions)?
b.	Is it in the proper name?
c.	Are there any hazards in building/on property?
d.	Do all building users have written lease or license or permission?
e.	Do all building users have proof of insurance on file?
IV. IN	SURANCE
a.	Does church have sufficient coverage?
	i Property
	ii Theft/Crime
	iii Liability
	iv Sexual Abuse
	v Employment Practices (EPLI)
	vi Non-owned auto
	vii Directors and Officers (D&O)
	viii Workers Compensation (unless exempt)
	ix Purchasing Insurance
b.	Are insurance policies kept in organized records?
	i Is separate list of historical policies maintained?
	ii Is policy information listed on annual report?
	iii. <u>Insurance Record guide</u>
V. <u>EM</u>	PLOYMENT
a.	Is personnel policy in place?
b.	Include non-discrimination/non-harassment/EEO provisions?
C.	Are job descriptions/expectations in writing?
d.	Is discipline in writing?
VI. AE	SUSE PREVENTION
a.	Is there policy for safeguarding children and volunteers?
	i Does it include screening/background checks/reference checks?
	ii Does it include "never alone" rule?
	iii Does it include waiting period to work with children/youth?
b.	Is policy being enforced/followed?
_	Do all doors have windows?