

# Voting Eligible?

The church Constitution affords voting rights to active members age 18 and older. It is important to ensure your membership status is where it needs to be, for you to be eligible to vote.

## **Membership Requirements:**

Folks are often surprised to learn even though they grew up, and were even baptized at First Evan, they are not actually members. Attending our Discover First Evan class, an interview with an elder and signing the Membership Confession is required to become a member of First Evan.

## **Active vs. Inactive Membership:**

Others may be surprised to learn because they have not been active at the church for a long time, their membership status was changed to "Inactive Member", per the constitution. Efforts are always made to contact people and find out their intentions before such a change is made, but if you have been away for a while and we were unable to reach you and get a response, your membership status might have been changed to "Inactive". Inactive members are not eligible to vote. You can check your profile on TouchPoint or call the church office to confirm your status.

## **Ensuring Active Member Status:**

We are offering a Discover First Evan class on the afternoon of April 7 from 4:00-6:00 for anyone that would like to begin the membership process. If you desire to continue the membership process after attending the class, we will make sure you have opportunity to have an elder interview prior to any vote on a senior pastor. If you find your membership status is currently "Inactive", all you need to do is re-engage with the church and let us know by email, text, or letter that you wish to return to "Active Member" status. It's that simple.

## **Proxy Voting:**

The constitution is very specific on the matter of voting by proxy.

Article V; Section 6.

**A. Proxy Votes:** A Voting Member may vote at all meetings of the Members by proxy **if prevented from attendance by ill health, work schedule or absence from the Memphis metropolitan area**, but proxy votes may not be solicited and no one Voting Member may cast proxy votes for more than two others. Before casting a proxy vote a Voting Member shall provide a written statement appointing him as proxy for a specific meeting, signed by the Voting Member whom he represents.

Forms for appointing a "Proxy" will be available [online](#), from the church office, and at the Connect Center. To request one by email, send a request to [office@firstevan.org](mailto:office@firstevan.org).

Let us all do our part to ensure a seamless and smooth voting process. Call the office if you are unsure of your membership status while there is plenty of time to get things taken care of if needed.