

Mountain View Lutheran Church • Church Council Meeting  
Tuesday 19 February 2019 • 6:30 p.m.  
MVLC Library

Minutes

Attendance

Present: Jason Cornell, Sonja Dahl, Bob Linden, Emily Thompson, Lynn Wadnizak, Julie Williams.

Absent: Ken Swanson, Karin Weberg.

Staff: Phil Edlund, Troy Kehm-Goins, Pastor Briana Merkle, Pastor John Vaswig.

Call to order

President Sonja Dahl called the meeting to order.

Devotions

Jason Cornell led devotions based upon quotes by Martin Luther King, Jr. The council prayed together.

Minutes

**It was M/S/P to approve the minutes of the Thursday 24 January 2019 meeting of the MVLC Church Council.**

Pastor's report • Associate Pastor

Pastor Briana Merkle spoke regarding the following:

- Continuing the series on mental health with the Rock Ministry's high school youth.
- The upcoming 5/6/7 hangout with other local Lutheran churches— Celebration, Peace, Pilgrim.
- The "Shrove Sunday" pancake feast on Sunday 3/3 for Rock Ministry and the rest of the congregation.
- The forthcoming Lenten devotional, planned and published by the Rock Ministry Leadership Team, with devotions written by congregational members.
- A lot of preparatory work—Lent, midweeks, Holy Week, sabbatical planning.

Pastor's report • Senior Pastor

Pastor John Vaswig spoke regarding the following:

- Contemplative worship for the Lenten midweek worship services, focused upon five Christian mystics.
- The work of the Easter Vigil Planning Team will start soon.
- Training for the “next level” of Deacon Ministry.
- Filming for the Mountain View Community Center's auction video.
- Meeting with SWWA Synod Bishop Richard Jaech, NWWA Synod Bishop Kirby Untai, and PLTS Rector Ray Pickett to discuss notions of collaborative work under the auspices of the Grace Place.
- The presence of Sallie Shawl from Jewish Voice for Peace at upcoming ExALT adult education classes.

Financial update

Church Administrator Phil Edlund spoke regarding the following:

- Other than being below expected giving levels by \$5,600, we had a decent month Expenses were also about \$8,000 below budgeted levels. Overall, we had a lower than expected deficit for the month of January (\$5,440 vs. a budgeted \$7,500 deficit).
- The additional 2018 benevolence has not been disbursed yet, which will be approximately \$2,700. This will happen closer to the June event with Associated Ministries.
- Month-end reserves were just under \$25,600.
- We paid an additional \$3,006 on the mortgage principal.
- Phil also provided updates on the Chapel septic system, installation of wireless computer-controlled thermostats throughout the campus, and the possible Verizon cell phone tower.

“Friends in Faith” small groups

The leaders of small groups will meet toward the end of March, acting as a leadership team for “Friends in Faith.” Everyone present “checked in” with how their group is doing, asked for a small group presence on the MVLC website, and asked for suggestions for the next book after *Interrupting Silence* concludes.

### Additional business

The following additional items of business were discussed:

- The need for a council representative from the Church Council to act as liaison to the Mountain View Community Center's board of directors.
- The need for someone to serve as a lay voting member at the 2019 Southwestern Washington Synod Assembly.
- To consider whether or not you are able and willing to serve another term on the Church Council.
- Reusable electronic giving cards to be used during the offering at worship services.
- Planning for Pastor John's sabbatical.
- The new baptismal banner created by Terry Johnson.

### Next meeting

The next meeting of the MVLC Church Council is at 6:30 p.m. on Tuesday 05 March 2019 in the Library. Ken Swanson leads devotions.

### Adjournment

Sonja Dahl "prayed us out."

Respectfully submitted,

Troy Kehm-Goins  
Recording Secretary