

Mountain View Lutheran Church • Church Council Meeting  
Tuesday 05 March 2019 • 6:30 p.m.  
MVLC Library

Minutes

Attendance

Present: Jason Cornell, Sonja Dahl, Ken Swanson, Lynn Wadnizak, Karin Weberg, Julie Williams.

Absent: Bob Linden, Emily Thompson.

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

Call to order

President Sonja Dahl called the meeting to order. The council prayed together.

Financial update

The Church Council reviewed a written financial update from Church Administrator Phil Edlund that included following:

- Giving for February was below monthly expectations, and about \$12,000 below expected levels year-to-date. Expenses were also about \$1,000 below budgeted levels, resulting in a slight surplus for the month of February.
- Chapel septic tank replacement is in process. We have adequate cash to cover this additional expense from the Capital Projects Reserve Fund and General Fund Reserves, but this will probably mean we will not be able to cover the entire cost of the Education Building roof replacement in August 2020.

Pastor's report • Associate Pastor

Pastor Briana Merkle spoke regarding the following:

- There was a good turnout for the "Shrove Sunday" pancake feast.
- The "Reflections of the Fellowship" daily devotions for Lent has been published.
- Working with Rock Ministry leaders to help during Pastor John's sabbatical.

- Initial planning for the Baccalaureate worship service and accompanying brunch.
- Meeting with the 2019 Vacation Bible School (VBS) Team. Planning for a smoother registration process and possible partnership with Iglesia Celebración de Vida. Figuring out how to best utilize the large monetary gift designated for VBS.
- Starting the “Chicken Chili Soup Challenge,” which is Rock Ministry partnering with the MVCC’s new soup program (and Kid Power Pack expansion).
- First through sixth graders heading north to Camp Lutherwood for their overnight retreat in two weeks time.

Pastor’s report • Senior Pastor

Pastor John Vaswig spoke regarding the following:

- Memorial service for Tim Nole at 1:00 p.m. on Saturday 3/23.
- Ash Wednesday worship services at 11:00 a.m. and 7:00 p.m.
- Meeting with Bishop Jaech, Bishop Untai, and Ray Pickett of PLTS regarding the Grace Place. Currently, the ELCA is short 1000 pastors for its 9300 member congregations. They discussed the need for “caretaking” of pastors, decline in seminary enrollment, and addressing the actuality of the state of the church rather than protecting its institutional angels.
- New member class of twenty individuals, coming from a diverse background of faith traditions—Lutheran, other denominations, the unchurched.
- The lead article in the April 2019 newsletter will address Pastor John’s sabbatical.

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

Pastor Bri “prayed us out.”

Respectfully submitted,

Troy Kehm-Goins  
Recording Secretary