

Mountain View Lutheran Church • Church Council Meeting  
Tuesday 02 April 2019 • 6: 30 p.m.  
MVLC Library

Minutes

Attendance

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

Absent: 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. Emily Thompson led devotions based upon Hebrews 11, one her brother's favorite chapters of the Bible. The council prayed together.

Minutes

**It was M/S/P to approve the minutes of both the Tuesday 19 February 2019 and the Tuesday 05 March 2019 meetings of the MVLC Church Council.**

Financial update

Church Administrator Phil Edlund provided a financial update that included following:

- The need to find a new treasurer.
- Giving is good right now. Giving for March 2019 was about \$2,000 above monthly expectations, and about \$8,300 below expected year-to-date giving.
- Month-end reserves were just below \$16,500, an \$9,300 decrease from last month, primarily due to disbursement of first quarter benevolences.
- Two council members will need to close out the old Key Bank accounts this month.
- Brantley, Ellison, and Yost has been contacted about the cost of an outside financial review, and we are awaiting an estimate.

Cell tower

We are still in conversation with Verizon regarding the cell phone tower lease. They are currently looking at replacing the existing parking lot light pole behind the Chapel rather than retrofitting the MVCC cupola.

Pastor's report • Associate Pastor

Pastor Briana Merkle spoke regarding the following:

- The need for a “rite of affirmation” associated with Rock Ministry’s notion of lifelong faith formation, to comply with one of the MVLC Constitution’s definitions of a “confirmed member” as “*baptized persons received by affirmation of faith.*”
- Most of the work of the Easter Vigil Planning Team is completed.
- The work of the Vacation Bible School (VBS) Planning Team continues. Registration is set up. In May, recruitment of volunteers begins. In June, registration opens and the donation list will be published.
- Instruction regarding Holy Communion will take place during this Sunday’s (4/7) Rock Ministry.
- There will be a Rock Ministry “Family Day” on Palm Sunday to make banners for Holy Week.
- The Southwestern Washington Synod’s “Fools Night Out” event for high school youth is on Friday, April 12, 2019.
- The upcoming high school retreat and May Holden Youth Weekend.

Pastor's report • Senior Pastor

Pastor John Vaswig spoke regarding the following:

- Researching the life of Teresa of Ávila for Lenten midweek worship.
- Appreciation of the musicians and cantors during Lenten midweeks.
- The Easter Vigil will be a balance of familiar liturgical pieces and new imaginings.
- Upcoming memorial services.
- The “commissioning” of the Congregational Care Deacons at worship on Sunday 4/7 and additional training in the fall.
- The need to establish a council retreat for mid-August.
- Upcoming quarterly giving statements need to include a letter of thanks to the congregation for faithful giving.

Project Homeless Connect

Pastor John contacted Associated Ministries about our sponsorship of the Project Homeless Connect event in June and is waiting to hear back about the number of volunteers that will be needed.

“Friends in Faith” small groups

The Wednesday 5/22 ExALT class will focus on the “Friends in Faith” small groups. It will be a time to examine what did and did not work, talk about the joys and struggles of small group ministry, and review *Interrupting Silence* in a large group format. President Sonja will lead a team to put together a panel for the night, as well as some questions to pose to small groups.

Supporting Pastor Bri

The Church Council discussed some of the ways to support Pastor Bri during Pastor John’s sabbatical, especially during times of crisis or emergency, such as the death of a congregational member. The use of Congregational Care Deacons, a support team, and flexibility of hours/office presence were highlighted.

Next meeting

The next meeting of the MVLC Church Council is at 6:30 p.m. on Tuesday 07 May 2019 in the Library. Lynn Wadnizak leads devotions.

Adjournment

Ken Swanson “prayed us out.”

Respectfully submitted,

Troy Kehm-Goins  
Recording Secretary