

Mountain View Lutheran Church • Church Council Meeting
Tuesday 10 April 2018 • 6: 30 p.m.
MVLC Library

Minutes

Attendance

Present: Michael Brauhn, Jason Cornell, Sonja Dahl, Becca Duskin,
Treasurer Jon Thieman, Pastor John Vaswig, Lynn Wadnizak, Karin
Weberg.

Absent: Walt Freed, Ken Swanson, Julie Williams.

Staff: Troy Kehm-Goins.

Call to order

President Sonja Dahl called the meeting to order.

Minutes

**It was M/S/P to approve the minutes of the Tuesday 20 March
2018 meeting of the MVLC Church Council.**

Financial update

Treasurer Jon Thieman spoke regarding the following:

- Giving for the month of March 2018 was strong—\$94,311 (\$5,982 over Spending Guideline)—and nearly even with expenses for the month.
- March 2018 giving was much better than March 2017 giving (\$15,575 more).
- Giving for the first two Sundays of April was quite strong.
- Year-to-date giving is about 95% of the Spending Guideline, slightly ahead of comparable 2017 year-to-date giving.
- Hopefully, strong giving continues, since historically second and third quarters see declines in giving.

Pastor's report

Pastor John Vaswig spoke regarding the following:

- Grateful for the response of the congregation to Kristi Ceder and family at Don's funeral.
- The upcoming memorial service for Louise Rose.

- The schedule for the spring session of ExALT is set.
- The book *Interrupting Silence* by Walter Brueggemann will be the first book that council-led small groups will read.
- His recent work with the Bright Stars of Bethlehem vision team, which included about 35 people from around the country, and at which Pastor John spoke about hope in relation to the Palestinian situation.
- The upcoming trip to Palestine and Israel by 23 members of MVLC.
- Associate Pastor Briana Merkle will start mid-June.

Associate Pastor compensation

The offer from Mountain View Lutheran to Pastor Briana Merkle was \$3,000 below her current salary, partly due to low salary guidelines of the Southwestern Washington Synod.

It was M/S/P to apply \$15,000 from the Centennial Seminary Scholarship Fund toward newly-called Associate Pastor Briana Merkle's seminary education debt.

It was M/S/P to add an extra \$1,000 to moving expenses (for a total of \$4,000) for Associate Pastor Briana Merkle.

Nominating Committee update

The candidates for the 2018-2019 Church Council—as identified, interviewed, and recommended by the Nominating Committee—are Jason Cornell, Sonja Dahl, Becca Duskin, Bob Linden, Ken Swanson, Emily Thompson, Karin Weberg, Lynn Wadnizak, Julie Williams.

Council resignation

Michael Brauhn resigned his position on Church Council, due to his daughter Carmen Van Soest serving on staff as Music Director.

Small groups

President Sonja Dahl and Lynn Wadnizak will serve as a “working group” to prepare for the 5/16 and 5/23 council-led small group nights at ExALT: Extraordinary Active Life Together.

Cottage meetings

Associate Pastor Briana Merkle will be meeting with members of the congregation at “cottage meetings” held in member homes. These meetings will be held in late June, July, and August. The Dahl, Duskin, and Quinn residences have already been offered as “host homes” for meetings, with additional locations needed.

MVCC update

Recently, President Sonja Dahl and Secretary Becca Duskin met with the MVCC Board of Directors. Two items to highlight from that meeting are (1) the 2018 auction brought about \$30,000 less than the 2017 auction; and (2) applications for a new Executive Director have been received and interviews will take place soon.

Approval of LEAF scholarships

It was M/S/P to grant \$1,000 LEAF scholarships to Matthew Knierim (new), Sarah Goddard (renewal), and Christina Knierim (renewal), to be taken from the Rock Ministry designated fund.

Next meeting

The next regular meeting of the MVLC Church Council is at 6:30 p.m. on Tuesday 24 April 2018. Sonja Dahl leads devotions.

Adjournment

The Church Council prayed together to close the meeting.

Respectfully submitted,

Troy Kehm-Goins
Recording Secretary