

Mountain View Lutheran Church • Church Council Meeting
Tuesday 21 May 2019 • 6:30 p.m.
MVLC Library

Minutes

Attendance

Present: Jason Cornell, Sonja Dahl, Ken Swanson, Emily Thompson, Lynn Wadnizak, Karin Weberg.

Absent: Bob Linden, Julie Williams.

Guests: Mary Beth Peterson, Wendy Wadnizak.

Staff: Troy Kehm-Goins, Pastor Briana Merkle.

Call to order

President Sonja Dahl called the meeting to order. Karin Weberg led devotions based upon the notion of civility and having conversations across various divides—referencing *Interrupting Silence* by Walter Brueggemann, *White Fragility* by Robin DiAngelo, Philippians 2:3-4, 1 Corinthians 12:13, Ephesians 4:32, James 4:6, James 4:10, and Romans 12:3—couple with the notion of humility. The council prayed together.

Minutes

It was M/S/P to approve the minutes of the Tuesday 07 May 2019 meeting of the MVLC Church Council.

Pastor's report • Associate Pastor

Pastor Briana Merkle spoke regarding the following:

- Good energy amongst the staff during Pastor John's sabbatical.
- Pastoral care.
- Starting to "shift gears" from weekly events (Rock Ministry, ExALT) toward larger summer events (VBS, youth trips).
- Elements of upcoming worship services, including three student preachers for Baccalaureate, procession of flags during Pentecost, and liturgical dance for The Holy Trinity.
- ExALT attendance was down the past two weeks, so we need to encourage others to attend for the final two weeks.

- Project Homeless Connect rapidly approaches and we still need volunteers to sign up to help.
- The current need for Vacation Bible School is volunteer recruitment.
- Pastor Glenn Petersen will preach and preside on Sunday 6/30, in order that Pastor Bri is able to fully participate in the high school summer mission trip.
- Pastor Bri continues to work on the “refugee curriculum” for the mission trip.

“Friends in Faith” small groups

The Wednesday 5/22 ExALT presentation will include the following:

-) A brief summary of what we’ve encountered and learned in *Interrupting Silence* by Walter Brueggemann.
-) Small group questions posed to a panel of small group participants—Carolyn Dahle, Kim Soeder, and Ken Swanson—and then to tables of those gathered for discussion.
-) Gretchen Johnsrud to speak about service opportunities at the Mountain View Community Center for small groups.
-) What to do next year—a book to read, topics, and the like.

Cell phone tower

A draft lease for the cell phone tower was handed out to council members for review at the Tuesday 6/4 meeting. Further discussion addressed mission and ministry versus utility, aesthetics, income, and the City of Edgewood hosting a second cell phone tower site.

Constitution

Some initial discussion focused on two main points: (1) that we have some serious work to do on our Constitution and having it better reflect the mission and ministry of our congregation and its governance; and (2) the need for a conversation about how close we need to hew to the model constitution(s) of the ELCA (and Southwestern Washington Synod).

Financial report

President Sonja Dahl presented financial information provided by Church Administrator Phil Edlund. Our year-to-date giving is down about \$11,000, but up 3.8% when compared to 2018’s giving. We are hoping for strong giving in May. There was also a question about the amount of fees we are charged for online giving and/or credit cards.

Next meeting

The next meeting of the MVLC Church Council is at 6:30 p.m. on Tuesday
04 June 2019 in the Library.

Adjournment

President Sonja Dahl “prayed us out.”

Respectfully submitted,

Troy Kehm-Goins

Recording Secretary