

Mountain View Lutheran Church • Church Council Meeting
Tuesday 23 October 2018 • 6: 30 p.m.
MVLC Library

Minutes

Attendance

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

Absent: Karin Weberg, Julie Williams.

Guests: Ben Wadnizak, Terry Wolfe.

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

Call to order

President Sonja Dahl called the meeting to order.

Devotions

Pastor John led devotions based upon the second chapter of *Interrupting Silence* by Walter Brueggemann, helping provide the leaders of “Friends in Faith” small groups a way to lead discussion of this material. His suggestions included the following:

- As leaders, reviewing “Sorting Out Some Names and Dates” (page 29) and “Key Dates and Prophets” (page 30).
- Asking the question, *Does God use other nations to punish his people?* (The answer is *yes.*)
- Noting that prophetic literature is intended to be in conflict with the empire and its power.
- Orientation: prophets as poets. Disorientation: the *words* of the prophet. Reorientation: God’s will for our lives.
- Priests are co-opted by and/or in collusion with the empire. Prophets call out priest, in addition to calling out the empire.
- Another question: *Does the temple belong to the king/empire or does it belong to Christ?*
- The importance of community in the midst of such conversations and the difficulties of the world.

Proposed 2019 Spending Guideline

Church Administrator Phil Edlund gave the Church Council an updated overview of the 2019 Spending Guideline, including the following:

- Pastoral category of \$260,147 / 17.7% increase from 2018.
- Administration category of \$301,691 / 3.7% increase from 2018.
- Benevolence category of \$173,456 / 0.7% decrease from 2018.
- Program category of \$90,211 / 19.0% decrease from 2018.
- Property category of \$121,600 / 5.3% increase from 2018.
- Debt service category of \$131,544 / 11.3% decrease from 2018.
- Total Spending Guideline of 1,078,649 / 1.8 % increase from 2018.
- Throughout the Spending Guideline categories, included are a 5% raise for the Custodian, and 3.275% raises for the rest of the staff, including Pastor John, in line with the Consumer Price Index and recommended by the Church Council.
- Minus mortgage payments from the Capital Campaign Account in the amount of \$27,248, the net 2019 Spending Guideline is \$1,051,261.

It was M/S/P by the Church Council to accept the proposed 2019 Spending Guideline of \$1,051,261 and recommend the same to the congregation at the Sunday 18 November 2018 Congregational Meeting.

Pastor's report • Associate Pastor

Pastor Briana Merkle spoke regarding the following:

- Recent events/activities with the high school youth, including a lock-in with 12 participants; Becca Duskin speaking of her relief work with refugees in Myanmar during Sunday's Rock Ministry class; and serving at the MVCC's Seeds of Change Community Meal.
- The pre-kindergarten/kindergarten worship retreat, which included around 25-30 people—students, siblings, and parents.
- The upcoming first- and second-grade Rock Ministry "Seasons of the Church Year" retreat.
- Giving a stewardship talk to the Rock Ministry classes on Sunday morning.
- 920 food items collected by Rock Ministry for MVCC's Kid Power Packs program, which will be packed by kids during ExALT on 10/24.
- Working on building a stronger relationship between Rock Ministry and the seniors of Mill Ridge Village Retirement Community.
- The establishment of a Rock Ministry Vision Team.

Pastor's report • Senior Pastor

Pastor John Vaswig spoke regarding the following:

- Gave the invocation at the Helping Hand House annual breakfast.
- Focusing two upcoming sermons—Reformation Sunday (10/28) and All Saints Sunday (11/4)—around the “Fellowship of the Light” theme, as well as a quote from Martin Luther.
- Worship on All Saints Sunday will reflect the nature of the church’s mission and ministry as we (a) remember those who have gone before us; and (b) baptize an infant into the faith we share.

Council member needed

The Church Council continues to seek a replacement for Becca Duskin’s position, as well as someone from the Council to serve in the role of Secretary.

11/18 Congregational Meeting

Lynn Wadnizak will put together a team to help set up and serve lunch. Staff will order lunch through Costco. Jason Cornell volunteered to serve as one of MVLC’s lay voting members at the 2019 SWWA Synod Assembly; two additional lay voting members are needed.

Next meeting

The next meeting of the MVLC Church Council is at 6:30 p.m. on Tuesday 06 November 2018 in the Library. Karin Weberg leads devotions.

Adjournment

Pastor Bri “prayed us out.”

Troy Kehm-Goins

Recording Secretary