

Mountain View Lutheran Church • Church Council Meeting  
Tuesday 06 November 2018 • 6:30 p.m.  
MVLC Library

Minutes

Attendance

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

Absent: Bob Linden.

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

Call to order

President Sonja Dahl called the meeting to order.

Devotions

Julie Williams led devotions based upon a passage from *Ethics* by Dietrich Bonhoeffer, as well as various scripture passages on hope. The council prayed together.

Minutes

**It was M/S/P to approve the minutes of the Tuesday 09 October 2018 and Tuesday 23 October 2018 meetings of the MVLC Church Council.**

Financial update

Church Administrator Phil Edlund provided a financial update. We ended October 2018 with good (but not great) giving. Giving for Sunday 11/4 was \$25,957 actual versus average expected giving of \$21,511. Phil recommended an Advent letter from President Sonja that incorporated feedback from the 10/24 adult education stewardship conversations.

MEF grants for 2018

The Mission Endowment Fund (MEF) Committee made the following recommendations for 2018 grant approvals, for a total of \$22,763:

- \$10,000 for “Grace Place” start-up funds.

- \$5,000 for a “welcome center” desk and cabinet in the Narthex.
- \$2,675.52 for couches for the youth rooms in the Education Building, as a matching grant, with the youth raising the other half.
- \$1,000 for shipping costs for quilts made by the MVLC Quilters.
- \$2,000 for a new keyboard for use by the worship band and microphones for use by the choirs.
- \$2,087.48 for the KidPower Packs program at the Mountain View Community Center.

**It was M/S/P to approve the MEF Committee’s recommendations for grant approvals as presented.**

Church Administrator’s report

Church Administrator Phil Edlund spoke regarding the following:

- The financial accounts for MVLC-sponsored Cub Scout Pack 526, Boy Scout Troop 525, and Venture Crew 524 being transferred to MVLC financial oversight due to their use of our 501(c)3 non-profit status.
- The Temple of Praise Seventh-Day Adventist Church has not been cleaning the space they use once they are done, so they will be paying an additional amount for custodians to clean the space after their worship ends.
- Asking the Church Council to discuss and consider how to proceed on a septic system that is right at the edge of our current usage, and will need modifications and/or upgrades in the near future, after an initial conversation with the septic system designer.

Pastor’s report • Associate Pastor

Pastor Briana Merkle spoke regarding the following:

- Trunk or Treat went well, with good participation of trunk hosts and attendees alike.
- Preparations for Advent Adventures, focusing on learning, service, and the intergenerational nature of these events.
- Planning for a justice-oriented congregational event for Martin Luther King Jr. Day in January 2019.
- Meeting with the youth directors at Peace Lutheran and Celebration Lutheran, with the notion of joint activities/events for 5th, 6th, and 7th grade youth.
- Upcoming meeting with a Rock Ministry “implementation team” of Geoffrey Boers, Aidan Cornell, Serena Fink, Jee Hamburg, and Carianne Kehm-Goins.

Pastor's report • Senior Pastor

Pastor John Vaswig spoke regarding the following:

- Gratefulness for the work of the MEF Committee.
- The upcoming “Faith over Fear” event, with more than 90 people signed up online toward our goal of 150 people in attendance.
- The 2018 Thanksgiving Eve homilists are recruited, becoming three of the fifty-eight such homilists over the past 19 years.
- The winter session of ExALT: Extraordinary Active Life Together adult education class will consist of three weeks on marriage taught by Pastor John and three weeks on children, youth, and family taught by Pastor Bri.
- Good signs in congregational life: attendance, involvement, baptisms, growth in depth, and the faithful work of Pastor Bri.
- The need to focus on Advent Adventures at MVLC during the season of Advent, amidst multiple potential requests for promotion of other programs and donations, including from the Mountain View Community Center and Nourish Edgewood Food Bank. The need to focus is in order to lift up Advent Adventures and to avoid overlapping/competing requests and subsequent diminishing returns for all.

Thanksgiving Eve offering

**It was M/S/P to evenly split the Thanksgiving Eve offering between the Nourish Edgewood Food Bank and ELCA World Hunger, focusing on local and global hunger needs, respectively.**

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 27 November 2018 in the Library. Karin Weberg leads devotions.

Adjournment

Karin Weberg “prayed us out.”

Troy Kehm-Goins  
Recording Secretary