

Mountain View Lutheran Church • Church Council Meeting
Tuesday 11 December 2018 • 6:30 p.m.
MVLC Library

Minutes

Attendance

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

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

Call to order

President Sonja Dahl called the meeting to order.

Devotions

Karin Weberg led devotions based upon a devotion from Christ in Our Home (12/11, "Team Spirit"); Isaiah 19:18-25; and God's inclusive work in the world, welcoming all into God's kingdom, even when we don't (or won't). The council prayed together.

Minutes

It was M/S/P to approve the minutes of the Tuesday 06 November 2018 meeting of the MVLC Church Council.

Financial update

President Sonja Dahl gave a financial update based upon documents provided by Church Administrator Phil Edlund. Giving for the second Sunday in December was \$30,000 versus \$22,000 in 2017. Giving for the year-to-date is \$930,000 versus \$964,000 in 2017. The reserves are at \$16,000 versus \$37,000 in 2017. We are in pretty good shape, but are hoping for a strong finish for the end of 2018.

Pastor's report • Associate Pastor

Pastor Briana Merkle spoke regarding the following:

- The "Family Cooking" meal preparation fellowship event with Cornerstone families.
- Advent Adventures at the midpoint of the four adventures.
- Young families taking the lead on decorating the Christmas tree.

- High school youth shopping for Christmas gifts for the upcoming Christmas Celebration/Santa Breakfast at the Mountain View Community Center.
- Various meetings with Rock Ministry mentor groups and vision team.
- An upcoming gathering of young adult/college students at the Johnsrud residence.
- Planning for the winter session of ExALT, which is the “Marriage and Family” class.

Pastor’s report • Senior Pastor

Pastor John Vaswig spoke regarding the following:

- The Advent midweek worship services as one way to fend off “December’s gods.”
- Mountain View Lutheran as one of the top 100 (of 9300) congregations providing financial gifts to ELCA World Hunger.
- Postcard invitations for Christmas Eve worship services.
- Deacons will visit all of our homebound and hospitalized members during the season of Advent.
- Considering a “Group of 12” with the Deacons.
- The long-gestating notion of the “Grace Place” is working toward finally being birthed. Pastor John has met/had conversations with SWWA Synod Bishop Richard Jaech, PLTS Rector Ray Pickett, Associated Ministries Executive Director Mike Yoder, and Pastor Heidi Calhoun.
- One possible Grace Place event/offering will be partnering with PLU’s Wang Center’s 2020 Symposium, with Rev. Mitri Raheb likely acting as keynote speaker.

MVLC Church Council Secretary

It was M/S/P to elect Julie Williams as secretary of the MVLC Church Council.

MVLC Treasurer

It was M/S/P to appoint Chris Duskin as treasurer of the congregation.

Columbia Bank

It was M/S/P to move our financial resources and accounts to Columbia Bank.

Housing allowances

It was M/S/P to approve housing allowances of (1) \$35,000 per year, for the current year and future years, from regular compensation plus any year-end bonuses for Pastor John Vaswig; and (2) \$18,000 per year, for the current year and future years, from regular compensation plus any year-end bonuses for Pastor Briana Merkle.

Next meeting

Meetings of the MVLC Church Council for January through early June 2019 were scheduled. They are Tuesday 1/8; Thursday 1/24; Tuesday 2/5; Tuesday 2/19; Tuesday 3/5; Tuesday 3/19; Tuesday 4/2; Tuesday 5/7; Tuesday 5/21; and Tuesday 6/4. The annual spring meeting of the congregation was scheduled for Sunday 5/19.

The next meeting of the MVLC Church Council is at 6:30 p.m. on Tuesday 08 January 2019 in the Library. Jason Cornell leads devotions.

Adjournment

Troy Kehm-Goins
Recording Secretary