

Mountain View Lutheran Church

Sunday, January 24, 2021 • 4:00 p.m.

Congregational Meeting

MINUTES

Attendance

117 voting members of Mountain View Lutheran Church, via Zoom.

Call to order

President Carol Powers called the meeting to order. The meeting was opened with prayer by Pastor Briana Merkle.

Approval of minutes

It was M/S/P to approve the minutes of the Sunday, November 17, 2019 Congregational Meeting; Sunday, February 9, 2020 Special Meeting of the Congregation; and the Wednesday, August 19, 2020 Congregational Meeting.

2020 financial update

Treasurer Jason Cornell spoke about the finances of the congregation, including the following highlights:

- Actual giving for 2020 was \$930,916 compared to (a) the 2020 Spending Guideline of \$1,067,878 (which meant a difference of \$136,962); (b) 2019 actual giving of \$1,023,586; and (c) 2020 actual expenses of \$1,066,271 (which meant a deficit of \$135,355).
- In July 2020, MVLC applied for a Paycheck Protection Program (PPP) loan under the US Federal CARES Act. The amount of our PPP loan was \$98,318, which meant that our 2020 actual giving with the PPP loan was \$1,029,234 or a deficit of \$37,037 when compared to actual giving.
- We have applied for full forgiveness of the PPP loan, which is expected to be granted.
- As of January 20, 2021, \$310,674 has been given toward the “Living Hope” campaign, which is 41% of the pledged amount of \$846,039.

2021 Spending Guideline

President Carol Powers spoke about the proposed 2021 Spending Guideline, including the following highlights:

- Some of the assumptions used to put the Spending Guideline together included a full return to “normal” activities by Gathering Day (in September); the new Senior Pastor starting in July 2021; maintaining staff at current hours and pay; projected (worst case scenario) annual giving of \$870,000; no cell tower lease dollars in 2021; and no additional PPP loan available.
- Major additions to include technology/livestreaming service and licensing for online worship; increases to medical insurance; call process expenditures; professional financial review; fire alarm testing; increased property taxes; and a temporary stipend for the sound board operator.
- Major reductions to include six months of not paying compensation for a Senior Pastor; reduced benevolences (from 17.5% to 13% of actual giving); reduced mortgage payments; no nursery care workers; and fewer funds available to capital projects for the campus.
- One of the ways to “manage the gap” was to reduce benevolences for 2021. If the benevolences were 17.5% of the proposed Spending Guideline, then the options to manage the gap would be (a) that the congregation gives more; (b) reduction in staff or staff hours; (c) reduction of benevolences; or (d) increase outside sources of cash flow (rentals, cell tower, and the like).

It was M/S/P that Mountain View Lutheran Church adopt the 2021 Spending Guideline in the amount of \$938,665. There were 107 votes to approve; 1 to reject; 9 abstentions, most due to ballots not being returned; and 8 ineligible ballots, due to members not being present at the meeting.

Roll Call

Roll call was taken to ensure that those present for the meeting would be eligible to vote.

Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned with prayer by Pastor Mike Greenwalt.

Respectfully submitted,
Troy Kehm-Goins, Recording Secretary