

Mt. View Lutheran Church Council
January 17, 2023
Church Library 6:30-7:30pm

MINUTES

Attendance

Present: Ken Swanson, Kevin Dahl, Bob Yost, Skip Harrison, Gretchen Johnsrud, Karen Hansen, Carol Powers, Dan Lysne
Jason Cornell - Treasurer

Zoom: Jenny Grayum

Absent: Fred Albert, Joel DeWitt, Emily Thompson, Pastor Bri, Pastor Eric

Call to Order

Kevin Dahl called the meeting to order at 6:30pm

Devotion

Dan Lysne shared a devotion

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

It was M/S/P to accept the minutes of the Tuesday December 13, 2022 meeting of the MVLC Church Council

SUBMITTED WRITTEN REPORTS

It was M/S/P to accept the written reports for the Tuesday January 17, 2023 Council Meeting that were submitted for its agenda by the following individuals and ministry groups:

Treasurer's Report - submitted by Jason Cornell

President's Report - Submitted by Kevin Dahl**M/S/P To approve the housing allowance for \$40,000 for Pastor Eric and \$30,000 for Pastor Bri for 2023**

The date of the next congregational meeting was set for May 21st.

There was discussion about continuing to offer voting by zoom at congregational meetings.

It was M/S/P to continue to offer participation at congregational meetings but in order to vote you must attend the meeting in person.

M/S/P to close the Pastor's Discretionary Fund checking account and give that money to the Mountain View Community Center's Good Neighbor Fund.

Council members were asked to prayerfully consider if they are willing/able to continue serving on council for another year.

There was discussion about the growing need for technology expertise at MVLC. It is a priority to put together a team of people to keep up to date on the technology needs of the congregation and also possibly train individuals, in areas like video recording, streaming, and sound. The council members were asked to come up with names of individuals that could be on that team.

Property - Fred Albert

December projects:

Community electrical update: The bids came in and are with Jason Cornell news regarding replacement of the one-to-three breaker panels in the food bank.

Ongoing projects:

- When we figure out how the parking lot fixtures are wired (110V or 220V), we'll put together a plan for changing them to LED fixtures, send council a project price list, and then we'll coordinate use of a lift for lighting, pressure washing the MVCC building, and trimming up the big oak along 122nd Ave E.
- We continue to work on trimming back the tree/brush growth around the perimeter of the 'back forty'/old overflow parking area, and that will continue as time and energy allow.

Peace and Justice - Fred Albert

- At our last meeting, we created a calendar of monthly benevolence focuses; each month we will focus on one organization or topic, and highlight it with presentations, educational material in the enews and bulletin, etc.
- First benevolence topic (PLU) on track for January

Deacons - Ken Swanson

- The Deacon ministry has undergone significant changes in the past several weeks. Three of our siblings in Christ have passed away and joined the Church Triumphant. We have added seven Deacon Ministers to our roster, while a couple of our senior members have stepped away from active duty, while remaining members emeritus and continuing to participate in outreach and card ministries.
- Over the last few weeks, the deacons have engaged in meetings to get to know new members, and engage in sharing stories, devotions, and education opportunities. These get togethers have given us an opportunity to grow in our commitment to the ministry, to the church, and to each other.
- As of January 1st. there has been a change in leadership of the Deacon Ministry. Michelle Schweikl has assumed the mantle of leadership, and we look forward to supporting her in that role. Sandi and I have stepped away from leadership, after two and a half challenging years. It has been a privilege to serve our faith community and look forward to continuing as members of the Deacon Ministry.

Pastor's Written reports

Pastor Eric

- Presided at the memorial service of Ramon Barnes at a funeral home in Puyallup.
- Thank you for some vacation time between Christmas and New Year's.
- Planned three snowshoeing outings in early 2023 with Fred Alberts.
- Tore Sleveland has completed his internship at Mt View.
- We had three different Christmas Caroling groups on Dec 18 and we brought Christmas joy to our home bound members.
- Continued to meet with the Mission Statement Task Force in preparations for Mission Meetings in 2023.

- The Deacons bid farewell to head deacons, Ken and Sandi Swanson, and welcomed their new head deacon, Michelle Schweikl. The Deacons also sent hand signed Christmas Cards to all of our home bound and pastoral care list members.
- Produced a Christmas Day video with Pastor Bri that currently has 173 views.
- Pastor Bri and I both meet with representatives from Lutheran Immigration and Refugee Services, Jon Buuck, & Lutheran World Relief, Lisa Kipp.
- Trying to help Gene and Karen Quandt share their home while they are in New Mexico. They are working with Lutheran Community Services Northwest to share their home as a temporary residence for a refugee family. Gene and Karen asked for a team from Mt View to help this family out with rides and other things that pop up. I've asked several members who are interested and provided them LCS volunteering applications to fill out

Pastor Bri

Youth Trips: Registration is happening through the end of January. Our next fundraiser will be Appetizer Platters for Super Bowl Sunday. Sales begin January 22nd. My goal is that the youth raise at least 1/3 the cost of the trip to help offset the cost to families. We also received an MEF grant toward the trip.

Pope and I are also considering a 1-night Elementary Retreat to a local camp. Lutherwood used to host this each year but hasn't since Covid, so we are considering designing one ourselves so that our kids have this opportunity to experience camp early on.

New Small Group: We have quite a few young families/couples in the congregation right now. So I'm working with one of those couples (John and Sam Tvester) to begin a new small group for this age-bracket of people who are all either newly married or have young children. Our first dinner will be on January 27th. My hope is this will be a great tool to build lasting fellowship among these newer members.

Affirmation of Faith Conversation: The mentors met to discuss and evaluate what form of Faith Formation process and Affirmation of Faith Ritual will best serve the youth. We agreed that what is most important to the faith formation process is relationships and experiences, not the imparting of knowledge. Because of this, we continue to have confidence in the retreat model which combines education with relationships and experiences. However, we did make some changes for the middle school and high school retreat and rite schedule.

For the final Affirmation of Faith, students will need to complete a project which we will provide several suggestions for, such as: a faith statement offered in worship, a formal faith conversation with a mentor, an art portrayal of their faith journey, etc. Once

students have completed a project, they can participate in the Affirmation of Baptism in worship, and so become voting members of the congregation.

Pastoral Acts: I'll preside at the service for Esther Wiesner on Jan. 28th at 11am.

Kyle's Installation will be Sunday Jan. 22nd at 3pm at Calvary in Federal Way.

Bishop's Convocation and Under 45 Roster Leader Retreat: PE and I will both attend these SWWA clergy events (Jan 16-18). It's a valuable time to reflect with colleagues, share ideas/inspirations, and hear from Synod leaders.

Closing Prayer - Carol Powers

Respectfully Submitted,

Gretchen Johnsrud
Council Secretary