

MOUNTAIN VIEW LUTHERAN CHURCH
Church Council Meeting Minutes
January 20, 2026; 6:30 pm; Church Library

ATTENDANCE

Present: Fred Albert, Monica Baker, Karla Briggs, Jason Cornell, Keven Dahl, Karen Hansen, Megan Hutton, John Meagher, Ken Swanson

Staff: Pastor Eric Bostrom, Pastor Andrew Conley-Holcom

MINUTES

The meeting was called to order by President Fred Albert at 6:38 pm.

Ken Swanson opened the meeting with a devotion and prayer.

The minutes of the December 16, 2025 meeting were reviewed.

Motion: Approve the minutes as posted

Made by: Karen Hansen

Second: Ken Swanson

Action: Passed

Review and approval of written reports

Motion: Approve written reports.

Made by: Karla Briggs

Second: Ken Swanson

Action: Passed

TREASURER'S REPORT

Jason reported that tithes and offerings for December were \$75,430 vs \$80,500 as expected. Total revenue for the month was \$79,936. Expenses for the month were significantly higher than planned due to the payment of staff bonuses and higher than expected fees.

Total revenue for the year was \$975,481. Total expenses for the year were \$966,919. We ended 2025 with a surplus of \$8,562.

Monthly rental income is covering less than we are spending on maintenance at this time. The Council needs to establish a policy of regularly reviewing income vs expenses to

identify and deal with ongoing spending trends. Henry Peck would be our contact for this information.

Deborah VanderLey is the life blood of our Rock Ministry program. Pastor Andrew is working with her to identify what she can delegate to other volunteers under her direction, and to determine how she is to be paid for her work i.e., stipend vs hourly pay.

Housing allowances for tax purposes for Pastor Eric and Pastor Andrew have been determined to be \$40,000 and \$39,225.

Motion: Accept the housing allowances for Pastor Eric at \$40,000 and Pastor Andrew at \$39,225.

Made by: Kevin Dahl

Second: John Meagher

Action: Passed

PASTOR'S REPORT

Pastor Eric

The council reviewed Pastor Eric's report while he presented the request from the MVCC to establish its own alcoholic beverage policy. The council needs to carefully consider defining the terms for this, but decided to approve the initial request for approval to serve alcohol (beer and wine) at an upcoming event.

Motion: Approve the MVCC's request to serve beer and wine at an upcoming event

Made by: Karla Briggs

Second: Ken Swanson

Action: Passed

SCHOLARSHIP COMMITTEE REPORT

Karen Hansen has been working with Jason Cornell, and Hamburg family members to define the terms of the scholarship to ensure that funds are available to MLVC applicants for years to come. These details are still being developed and we look forward to hearing more.

COUNCIL SERVICE PLANS FOR 2026/2027

It's time to start thinking about whether existing council members plan to serve in the coming year. The term of service is a maximum of five years. Council members have been asked to come to the February meeting prepared to state their decision to serve or retire.

CLOSING PRAYER

John Meagher led the council in closing prayer.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 8:29 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Monica K Baker, Secretary

Pastor Eric's Report to the Jan Council:

- We had several baptisms in December: Raydin Riley Dec 14, Owen Shephard Dec 21, and Finn Swan Dec 28.
- Christmas Eve worship attendance was up from the previous year.
 - 2024 5pm was 177 and 7pm was 191 for a total 368
 - 2025 5pm was 191 and 7pm was 180 for a total of 371
- The staff experienced a tight turn around between these two Christmas service and have decided to set the 2026 Christmas Eve times at 4pm and 7pm.
- We said goodbye to Deacon Traci Vatne on Sunday, Dec 28. (Sad)
- We said hello to Pastor Andrew Conley-Holcom on Sunday, Jan 4. (Hooray)
- Pastor Andrew's on boarding is still in process. Pastor Andrew's retirement and health benefits are through the UCC so we are going through the process of Mt View becoming an employer in the UCC system.
- Women's Bible Study completed their study on the Gospel of Mark and will start a study on Roman in February.
- You haven't heard much about Mt View's Footsteps of Paul trip for a while. It is still a go. I have a good core group of travelers interested in the trip and there is room for more. I will be more invitation for the Oct 2026 trip in the month of February.
- The MVCC rents their space for community groups like corporate groups, family reunions, wedding receptions, and other events that may include alcohol. Instead of seeking our Council for permission for each instance, can we authorize the MVCC to adopt and police their own alcohol policy?
- Thanks to Karen Hansen for drafting an application form for the Hamburg Memorial Scholarship. Karen has a fuller report to share progress about this new scholarship.
- I felt MEF Sunday felt great. I hope the Council and the whole congregation feel proud of the generosity our congregation is providing to so many organizations and ministries. Thanks to Beth Ann as chair, the MEF committee, and Karen Hansen as Council liaison.
- You'll hear this from Jason, but I want you to hear it from me, too. I'm excited to announce that MVLC gave \$101,190 in benevolence in 2025. Add the MEF allocation of \$28,600, and MVLC gave away about \$130K in one year. Thanks be to God!

- The staff is currently discussing a switch from Zoom to Microsoft Teams for our video conferencing software.
- Rhonda and I are taking time away for a long weekend in Vancouver, Canada Jan 29-Feb 1. I will miss worship on Sunday, Feb 1 and this will be Pastor Andrew's first Sunday solo. Thank you for this time away for rest and adventure.

Pastor Eric

MOUNTAIN VIEW LUTHERAN CHURCH

Scholarship Committee

January 20, 2026

History

As reported previously, Russ and Joan Hamburg (educators and former members of Mountain View Lutheran Church who have passed away) generously donated \$50,000 to Mountain View Lutheran Church. The award was presented by Craig and Mark Hamburg, sons of Russ and Joan, in December 2025.

Pastor Eric, Councilmember Karen Hansen, and Treasurer Jason Cornell met with Craig and Mark Hamburg to express appreciation for and to discuss management of the gift. Because of the educational legacy established by the Hamburg family, a decision was made to focus the monies on scholarships awarded to seniors at Mountain View Lutheran Church. Jason and Karen explored a potential option to participate in a fund managed by the Puyallup Schools Foundation. But because this Foundation is limited to awarding scholarships only to students attending Puyallup School District, they made a recommendation to collect the donation in the name of the Church and to establish a scholarship fund managed by the church.

On Tuesday, December 9, Pastor Eric and Karen Hansen met with Mark and Craig Hamburg to update them on this information and to discuss other options. All were in agreement that a Hamburg Memorial Scholarship fund be established at Mountain View Lutheran Church. Pastor Eric and Karen Hansen agreed to establish a Scholarship Committee within the Church that would manage the selection and award of scholarships funded by the Hamburg donation and any future donations of scholarship monies.

Pastor Eric and Karen Hansen Met on January 14, 2026 to establish recommended scholarship guidelines, timeline, and the application for the award of scholarships to seniors belonging to or affiliated with Mountain View Lutheran Church with a goal of

presenting \$1,000 scholarship(s) to Mountain View Lutheran Church student(s) in June 2026. This year's guidelines will serve as a pilot for guidelines in future years.

Action

Finalize the development of the scholarship application, guidelines, and timeline for the scholarship award to be made available to Mountain View Lutheran Church students during Spring, 2026.

Report Submitted By,

Karen Hansen

January 10, 2026

MOUNTAIN VIEW LUTHERAN CHURCH

Scholarship Committee

Hamburg Scholarship

In honor of Russ and Joan Hamburg, longtime members of Mountain View Lutheran Church and longtime educators in the Puyallup School District, Craig and Mark Hamburg, sons of Russ and Joan, have contributed funding to establish the Hamburg Scholarship Award. Guidelines for the scholarship will be established by members of a Scholarship Committee managed by the Mountain View Lutheran Church with a goal of awarding the first scholarship(s) in June, 2026.

Eligibility Requirements

Scholarship applicant must be a graduating high school senior who begins his/her higher education by the age of 21.

Scholarship applicant must be a member of Mountain View Lutheran Church or student who has made a significant contribution to the mission of Mountain View Lutheran Church.

Scholarship recipient must plan to attend an accredited two or four-year college/university or vocational-technical program.

Scholarship applicant must have a minimum 2.0 gpa at the time of graduation.

Grants

The scholarship award will be a one-time award in the amount of \$1,000.

This one-time scholarship does not preclude students from applying for any other scholarship.

Scoring will be Based on the Following

Scoring will be based on the applicant's experience and activities in the areas of participation in Mountain View Lutheran Church, youth leadership and service in church and school, community service and activities, honors and awards, and other related experiences.

Timeframe

Applications must be received by March 15 of the applicant's senior year.

Scholarship will be awarded during the MVLC senior recognition worship service (usually held during the last week of May or first week of June).

Scholarship awards must be sent to the college or university within three years of receipt.

Scholarship applications should be mailed to the MVLC Scholarship Committee, Mountain View Lutheran Church, 3505 122nd Avenue E, Edgewood WA 98372.

A check for the scholarship recipient will be made payable to the college, university or vocational-technical college. Students must notify the MVLC Scholarship Committee of the name of the school they are attending and their student ID number.

Mountain View Lutheran Church will award annual scholarships to graduating seniors who meet the guidelines established for this award.