

Mountain View Lutheran Church • Church Council Meeting  
Thursday 24 January 2019 • 6:30 p.m.  
MVLC Library

Minutes

Attendance

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

Absent: Lynn Wadnizak, Julie Williams.

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

Call to order

President Sonja Dahl called the meeting to order.

Devotions

Sonja Dahl led devotions based upon the concept of forgiveness, as found in Genesis 50:15-19; Mathew 6:14-15; John 20:21-23; and Ephesians 4:32. The council prayed together.

Minutes

**It was M/S/P to approve the minutes of the Tuesday 08 January 2019 meeting of the MVLC Church Council.**

Financial update

Year-to-date giving is \$47,362, which is approximately down \$9,000, but up compared to year-to-date giving in 2017.

Pastor's report • Associate Pastor

Pastor Briana Merkle spoke regarding the following:

- There was a good turnout of kids and parents for the Rock Ministry's "Money Matters" workshop.
- The first High School Hangout with kids from other Lutheran congregations—Peace, Pilgrim, and Celebration. The next similar Hangout will be for 5/6/7 grade youth.
- Continuing education at both a 45-and-under clergy gathering and the Bishop's Convocation.

- Souper Bowl of Caring casseroles to be prepared at the upcoming 5/6/7 lock-in.
- Incarnational ExALT classes for kids. Baking communion bread. Playing BINGO with residents at Mill Ridge Village. Packing Kid Power Packs for the MVCC.
- Discussing drug use, depression, and suicide with the high school youth during Sunday Rock Ministry classes.
- Starting the planning for 2019 Vacation Bible School.
- Meeting with the Rock Ministry Team.
- The baptisms of Ellie and Ezra Holden.

Pastor's report • Senior Pastor

Pastor John Vaswig spoke regarding the following:

- Preparing for pastoral care during his sabbatical. Training a cadre of Deacons for a “stepped up” level of visitation and care.
- Being delighted by the attendance at ExALT, especially with difficult subject matter.
- The possibility of a couples retreat in the fall, inspired by attendance and participation in the “Marriage and Family” ExALT class.

Additional 2018 benevolence allocation

It was proposed that the additional 2018 benevolence of \$2,700 be used for a June 2019 “Project Homeless Connects” event, hosted by Associated Ministries at Puyallup Nazarene Church. The money would make MVLC one of the main cosponsors of this particular PHC event. This event would also serve as a “Grace Place” connection.

Pastor Heidi Calhoun is laying out “bridges” from Associated Ministries to various congregational/community “satellites,” one of which is MVLC’s Grace Place.

As Pastor John reminded members of the MVLC Church Council: “This is an opportunity for incarnational, on-the-ground, Gospel response; being ambassadors for Christ; providing continuity from Sunday to Monday.”

**It was M/S/P to spend the \$2,700 for the Associated Ministries sponsored “Project Homeless Event.”**

Cell phone tower

Verizon approached MVLC about allowing a cell phone tower on the church campus. Discussion ensued about some of the potential benefits and challenges—rental income, impact on the neighborhood, locking us into a 30-year lease, environmental concerns, and communications concerns. More information is needed before the Church Council will be ready to make a decision.

Chapel septic tank

Second and third estimates are being obtained to better determine the cost and scope/scale of repairing/replacing the Chapel's septic tank.

"Friends in Faith" small groups

At some point in the near future, there will be a "large group" gathering of participants in the "Friends in Faith" small groups.

Next meeting

The next meeting of the MVLC Church Council is at 6:30 p.m. on Tuesday 05 February 2019 in the Library. Jason Cornell leads devotions.

Adjournment

Karin Weberg "prayed us out."

Respectfully submitted,

Troy Kehm-Goins  
Recording Secretary