

Mountain View Lutheran Church • Church Council Meeting  
Tuesday, February 9, 2021 • 6:30 p.m.  
Online meeting (via Zoom)

Minutes

Attendance

Present: Sonja Dahl, Bob Linden, Dan Neptun, Mary Beth Peterson, Gerry Philipsen, Carol Powers, Emily Thompson, Wendy Wadnizak, Karin Weberg.

Staff: Pastor Mike Greenwalt, Troy Kehm-Goins, Pastor Kim Latterell, Pastor Briana Merkle.

Call to order

President Carol Powers called the meeting to order.

Pastor Mike Greenwalt led reflections upon the Sunday 2/7 Transition Discussion with Bishop Jaech.

Devotion

Emily Thompson led devotions based upon the concept of waiting—learning how to be patient, listen, be still—and Exodus 7:1-13; Genesis 8:5-7; Psalm 27:14; and Micah 7:7. The council prayed together.

Approval of minutes

**It was M/S/P to approve the minutes of the Tuesday, January 26, 2021 meeting.**

Financial update

President Carol Powers provided a financial update.

Pastor's report—Pastor Briana Merkle

Pastor Briana Merkle spoke regarding the following:

- Deep gratitude for the members of the Council and their continued support.
- Kits being delivered to various age groups of Rock Ministry, including new home altar cloths sewn by Joan Linden and Marie Philipsen and soup recipes supplied by Don and Lori Neptun.

- “Faith practice” Lenten boxes for the high school youth created by Carianne Kehm-Goins.
- Upcoming Zoom game night for elementary age kids.
- Valentine card creation kits being sent out to Rock Ministry families.
- Five MVLC youth signed up for Flathead Lutheran Bible Camp, which is a significant drop in numbers.
- Rock Ministry Discernment Group meeting this Sunday, prior to worship, to examine priorities for RM.

Pastor’s report—Pastor Kim Latterell

Pastor Kim Latterell spoke regarding the following:

- Working with Deacons, ALIVE Team, and Worship Planning.
- ALIVE is working on the Ministry Site Profile, with it hopefully completed by the end of the month.
- Susan is doing great work with the Worship Planning Team.
- Hoping that the Council will set a meeting date for the Call Committee vote in March.
- “The Forgotten Luther” has concluded. Appreciated Pastor Paul Wee’s facilitating the class.
- We will need to talk about future Sunday and Wednesday adult education classes.
- This Sunday 2/14, Pastor Ron Kempe will talk about TLRC during adult education.
- Leading a weekly Women’s Bible Study on Thursday afternoons. First session was enjoyable.

Pastor’s report—Pastor Mike Greenwalt

Pastor Mike Greenwalt spoke regarding the following:

- Thankfulness for some of the imagery on the website and MVLC Facebook page.
- We don’t have a chain of command; we have areas of responsibility. We lead as a team!
- “Looking Forward” newsletter. We are still soliciting such “vision sheets”/reports from various ministry groups, small groups, etc.
- Two intentional debrief meetings for staff: one for clergy staff and one for the full staff.
- With the energy of the ALIVE Team’s work and additional “transition process” discussions, we are moving forward with mission and ministry.
- “Jazzed” about where the community of MVLC is now versus last July. (The Holy Spirit cannot be bound!)

### PPP loan

President Carol will have Church Administrator Phil Edlund and Treasurer Jason Cornell pursue the second Paycheck Protection Program (PPP) loan that is available to MVLC.

### Nominating Committee

It is time for the Nominating Committee to start their work. Ken Edmonds, Pili Wolfe, Fred Albert were elected. Sonja Dahl will serve as one of the two Council members to the group.

### Ministry Site Profile

The ALIVE Team will do the initial work on the Ministry Site Profile. The Church Council has a portion that they need to fill out, which they will do at a special Council meeting at 6:30 p.m. on Tuesday 2/16.

### Return to Worship update

Sonja Dahl, chair of the Return to Worship Team spoke regarding the following:

- The team continues to meet weekly.
- Their main tasks right now are examining numbers, local/state recommendations, and the phase we are in.
- They recommend in-person worship no earlier than Sunday 2/21, with a rehearsal the night before the first Sunday.
- Invite other “rental churches” to return after we return to in-person worship.
- Invite Scouts for outdoor activities once we hold our 2/17 Ash Wednesday service.
- Staff requests return to in-person worship date of 3/7, in order to allow time to properly prepare and recruit participants.
- Staff recommends that the Lenten midweek worship services remain parking lot services, even when in-person Sunday worship returns. Ash Wednesday as outdoor parking lot service. Recommendation for all parking lot services for Lenten midweeks, even if/when in-person Sundays return.

### Congregational Constitution Review Committee

Two members have submitted their names for consideration. Philipsen is willing to serve as council liaison to the group.

## TLRC Covenant Agreement

Members of the Church Council are encouraged to attend the 9:00 a.m. adult education discussion on 2/14, in order that we can better decide if we want to serve as a Tacoma Lutheran Retirement Community/Eliseo “covenant congregation.”

## Vision discussion

- *The homework discussion was deferred until 2/23 meeting (2 questions) and following meeting (final 2 questions), with this at the top of the agenda for fifteen minutes of discussion.*
- How are we animating the story of the “us”?
- How are we telling the story of the Mountain View that is becoming, not just the Mountain View that has been.
- As leaders, we set the tone.

Pastor Kim “prayed us out.”

## Next meeting

The next meeting of the MVLC Church Council is at 6:30 p.m. on Tuesday, February 23, 2021. Wendy Wadnizak leads devotions.

Respectfully submitted,

Troy Kehm-Goins  
Recording Secretary