

MOUNTAIN VIEW LUTHERAN CHURCH
Church Council Meeting Minutes
February 17, 2026; 6:30 pm; Church Library

ATTENDANCE

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

Zoom: Karen Hansen

Staff: Pastor Eric Bostrom, Pastor Andrew Conley-Holcom

MINUTES

The meeting was called to order by President Fred Albert at 6:33 pm.

Monica Baker opened the meeting with a devotion from the writings of Henri Nouwen and prayer.

The minutes of the January 20, 2026 meeting were reviewed.

Motion: Approve the minutes as posted

Made by: Karla Briggs

Second: Megan Hutton

Action: Passed

Review and approval of written reports

Motion: Approve written reports submitted for consideration at the February meeting.

Made by: Megan Hutton

Second: Ken Swanson

Action: Passed

TREASURER'S REPORT

Jason reported that tithes and offerings in January were \$92,116.58, exceeding our target by more than \$5,700 with planned expenses in line with the spending guideline.

The financial report itself showed that expenses were \$13,500 more than expected, but that was because MEF funds are paid out of board expenses. The funds are offset by the distributions received from the MEF.

PASTORS' REPORT

Pastor Eric

The council reviewed Pastor Eric's report while he presented some highlights including:

The Staff Advocacy Committee (SAC) gained two new members – Craig Murray and Jesie Holden. Each brings important skills that will contribute greatly to the SAC.

Many thanks to Karen Hansen who worked hard to create the Hamburg Scholarship application document. Applications for the inaugural year are due on April 1. As of this writing, Tristan Cornell is an applicant, and Pastor Eric will invite one additional potential applicant who is a homeschooled High School senior. The plan is to open eligibility to participants of programs hosted by our campus partner organizations including scouting and the community center (MVCC) in the coming years.

Pastor Andrew

The council reviewed Pastor Andrew's report while he presented some highlights. He has been very busy, and we are grateful for the point of view he brings to the body of Christ here at MVLC.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT/COUNCIL DISCUSSION

Sanctuary Video System Upgrade. A solid mid range system has been identified – Bird Dog Brand \$4,085 plus tax and shipping. This includes three cameras and a controller. Beth Ann has requested an additional stick mic for use in the sanctuary be added to the video system upgrade. This will involve buying a receiver and for redundancy/versatility two stick mics.

Motion: allocate up to \$8,000.00 to buy equipment for the Sanctuary video and audio system upgrade.

Made by: Kevin Dahle

Second: John Meahger

Action: Passed

The Celebracion de Vida church has dwindled to a weekly average attendance of about 20 individuals. They are asking for financial relief and are requesting that their rent be reduced to \$600.00 a month.

Motion: amend the lease to reflect the reduced rental payment through the end of the year to address lower attendance.

Made by: Kevin Dahle

Second: Ken Swanson

Action: Passed

Henry Peck has requested funds to take the Honey Doers out to lunch for repairing the Foodbank's generators.

Motion: approve spending up to \$30.00 per attendee for lunch.

Made by: Karla Briggs

Second: Megan Hutton

Action: Passed

The following individuals will be leaving council service. Fred Albert, Kevin Dahl, Karen Hansen and Ken Swanson have either served their five-year maximum or are retiring for other reasons. Karla Briggs, Monica Baker and John Meahger will continue to serve.

A standard methodology for charging the scouts for events beyond the regular meetings. Henry needs to negotiate a facility use agreement with the Scouting organization(s) representatives. Additional scouting events involve additional cleaning by Yelena, who should be encouraged to "flex" or otherwise change her work schedule to address the additional day/time spent cleaning up after these events. If Yelena chooses to flex her schedule, she should agree to use the time accrued within an agreed upon interval.

CLOSING PRAYER

Fred Albert led the council in closing prayer.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 8:27 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Monica K Baker, Secretary

PASTORS' REPORTS

Pastor Eric's Report to the February Council Meeting:

Here is my Pastor's Report to the Feb council meeting:

- Average weekly worship attendance was 204 in 2025 and 193 in 2024.
- We had a nice group of folks who are interested in joining the congregation. So, we are having a membership mixer on Sunday, March 8, and they will join the congregation at the Easter Vigil service.
- Memorial Service for Helen Harwood will be Saturday, Feb 28, at 3pm.
- I'm starting a new Bible Study at Mill Ridge with our Mill Ridge members and more. We meet the 2nd and 4th Wednesdays at 1:30pm.
- Thank you for a four-day weekend with my wife, Rhonda, to Vancouver, Canada.
- Thanks to the Honey doers for fixing the foodbank generator and saving the church the expense of buying a new generator. (please sign the card)
- We had a Campus Summit for our Campus partners to meet Pastor Andrew for the first time and vice versa. The goodwill and positivity toward our church were expressed. All share a desire to share activities and grow in partnership. Pastor Andrew had a positive impression.
- My travel group for the Oct 2026 Footsteps of Paul pilgrimage is coming together. I've had my first several folks register and pay downpayments. Recruiting continues . . .
- The Bishop was originally scheduled to be present and preach at Pastor Andrew's installation on Feb 15, but he experienced a significant death of a loved one and needs to attend the memorial service on Feb 15. Pastor Andrew asked me to preach in place of the Bishop and I'm honored to say, "Yes."
- Once I know the number of Council members and MEF Committee members we need, the Nominating Team is ready to go to work. I need one Council person to join with Dottie, Craig and Myself.
- The Hamburg Scholarship Application is finished and ready to pass forward to Tristan Cornell. This first year will be a pilot year, and Tristan will be our guinea pig. Thanks to Karen Hansen for her amazing work finishing the application forms.

Pastor Eric

Pastor Andrew's Report to the February Council Meeting:

Big Rocks (so far):

1. Learning what Rock Ministry is (some history, current practices, some possibilities)
2. Addressing previous conflicts (including learning their history and context)
3. Preaching (3x since last Council Meeting) and Presiding in Worship
4. Connecting with staff, lay leaders, Rock Ministry participants, and members of MVLC
5. Preparing Holy Communion Retreat for 3rd-5th graders

Growing Edges (to come):

1. Creating a Master Calendar for the Rock Ministry program with 2 year horizon
2. Building relationships with families that lead to durable communication streams (3/13 Parent Summit, 4/26 Stakeholder Mtg)
3. Assembling a National Youth Gathering 2027 Planning Committee (2/19 initial Zoom mtg)
4. Preparing Adult Ed classes (scheduled 3/15 & 3/29)
5. Connecting with Campus Partners and Community Leaders

Specific Actions:

- Weekly meetings w/ Deborah, Pastor Eric, and Staff
- Strategy session with SAC
- Mentor Meeting
- Meetings with Pastor Bri (St. Marks), Pastor Bridget (Messiah), Rev. Kevin Beebe (Lutherwood)
- Regional Colleague Meeting with Mount Ranier Conference
- Memorial Service at Powers Funeral Home (including planning meetings with the family)
- Campus Summit

- Installation Preparation & initiating UCC local church membership
- Moving into my new office
- Planning Prayer Stations for Lenten Mid-Week Services
- Prepping for Synod Youth Retreat
- Request for Annual Performance Review (and Job Description)
- Coordinating celebration of Pastor Eric's 4 Year Anniversary
- Reading *Sustainable Youth Ministry* by Mark DeVries