

Mt. View Lutheran Church Council Agenda
March 15, 2022
Church Library 6:30-7:30pm

MINUTES

Attendance

Present: Pr. Eric, Pr. Bri, Bob Linden. Bob Yost, Skip Harrison, Karen Hansen, Gerry Philipsen, Gretchen Johnsrud, Ken Swanson, Treasurer - Jason Cornell

Guests: Jesie Holden and Caitlyn Remington from MVCC

Absent: Emily Thompson

Call to order

President Bob Linden called the meeting to order at 6:30pm

Devotion

Bob Linden led devotions entitled "Held by Fear"

The devotion focused on how fear subtly or not so subtly controls our lives and keeps us from moving forward or growing. Love is the opposite of fear. God's love overcomes our fears and allows us to experience life at its fullest.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

It was M/SP to approve the minutes of the Tuesday February 15, 2022, meeting of the MVLC Church Council

SUBMITTED WRITTEN REPORTS

It was M/S/P to accept the written reports for the Tuesday, March 15, 2022, Council Meeting that were submitted for its agenda by the following individuals and ministry groups:

An in-person update from Jesie Holden and Caitlyn Remington on MVCC

- Spring fundraiser - March 26
Tent on campus Friday - Monday
- Online auction starts on March 27
- Study buddies - 2 times a week for 6 weeks
- Seeds of Change - Thursday community dinner; hopefully starting soon

- Two Grants - Senior Gardening Program
 - Raised beds and green house
 - MOU for maintenance of gardens
- Board meeting - setting next 3 year strategic plan
- Community needs assessment
 - MVCC will be sending our surveys to MVLC Church members requesting their comments on MVCC programs and asking for their volunteerism at the Center

Treasurer's Report - submitted by Jason Cornell.

- An in-person update was given on the current financial status of the congregation.
- The old Scouting accounts are to be closed.
- Jason Cornell will be added as a signer on Mt. View's checking accounts

President's Report - submitted by Bob Linden

- Welcome Pastor Eric to first Mt. View Church Council Meeting
- Pastor Eric's Installation Service is on Sunday, March 20th, at 3:00pm. An Installation Dinner follows the service.
- Mt. View's Constitution Revision is completed and ready for Council's vote.
- Further discussion on the Church Administrator's job description and posting will resume next week.
- Work has begun on preparing for our next congregational meeting on May 22nd.
- Now that Covid restrictions are being lifted, a Council/Staff(?) Retreat needs to be considered. Discussion should begin shortly after the new Church Council is seated on June 1st.
- Bob Yost will assume chair responsibilities while the Other Bob is traveling with Joan from March 30th- May 4th.

Staff Advocacy Committee - Carol Powers

- Personnel Manual - Requested and received a copy of SW Synod Personnel Manual to use as a reference point.
- Administrator Position: Karen Hansen, Bob Linden, and Carol Powers met on Feb. 22nd to discuss the Administrator position description and job posting. They will meet in the next few weeks with Prs. Bri and Eric to go over the position.

Stewardship: Gerry Philipsen

- We have not met since last December. At that time, our proposed future topic for discussion was: Whether to have a Time and Talent drive for the Spring.

Peace and Justice: Beth Ann Johnson

- moving our monthly meeting to the last Thursday of the month.
- We are drafting a letter to all our benevolence organizations.
 - We are asking each organization (a) what a \$100 donation allows them to do and (2) what a \$1000 donation allows them to do.
 - We are also considering asking them about how they align with the values of the ELCA as outlined in the Social Statement on Economic Life.

Nourish Food Bank - Bob Yost

- The Edgewood Community Food Bank, a location of Nourish Pierce County, has seen the number of clients rising rapidly the past several months.
- Preparation days are on Wednesday and Friday and distribution days remain on Thursday afternoon starting at 3:30 pm and Saturday beginning at 11:00 am.
- You will also notice in the next few weeks that fencing will be placed around Dale's trailer as this will provide much needed privacy from the clients who may sometimes wander through his space prior to the opening of the Food Bank.

Property - Gretchen Johnsrud

- We have received 2 bids for the landscaping maintenance of the campus, both bids came in about \$2,000 more than we were paying in the past with Blue Sky.
 - We will take these bids to the Property Committee and discuss whether we should accept one of these bids or make another plan.

Return to Worship - Sonja Dahl

- Our church highly recommends to continue to wear mask but masks will not be required as of March 12, 2022 for the church members.
- Mountain View Lutheran Church will require mask wearing during the following higher risk and close contact activities : usher, communion assistant, members who serve food, nursery attendants, and choir rehearsal.
- We are resuming passing the offering plates and allowing the pastors and worship assistants to not wear gloves during communion.

Pastor Bri

- Planning for Holy Week and Easter: Vigil Planning is underway and an invitation has been extended to Hannah Johnsrud to lead Maundy Thursday worship. Youth will help lead Good Friday worship. Staff has determined that there will be no Easter Breakfast this year as no volunteers have stepped up to make it. We will plan for a robust coffee hour.
- Youth Mental Health 101, March 27th @ 2pm via Zoom. This is a time for parents and concerned adults to have conversation with a professional counselor on the topic of mental health among our children and teens. Mt. View is sponsoring this event and I have invited our partner churches in youth ministry to participate as well.
- New Resource for youth in worship:
 - For Lent I am experimenting with creating drawing prompts connected to the lectionary to help engage youth in the content of worship through weekly drawing and reflection ideas.
- I attended the installation of Pr. Chelsea Globe as pastor for UW Campus Ministries on March 13th.
- Last week I attended a Synod Workshop on Quality of Calls for Rostered Women leaders in the church. The purpose of this workshop is to hear stories of women leaders in our synod and identify ways the Synod as a body can work to foster equity and empowering environments for rostered women leaders.

Pastor Eric

- The staff has been super helpful to me getting my office, computer, church credit cards, and all that technology, online account kind of stuff set up.
- I met with every staff person, not Yelena yet, and visited for about an hour about their understanding of their scope of responsibilities, how it has evolved in the past, joys and struggles on staff, and concerns or hopes for the future of their position.
- I have begun meeting with members to hear their story of life and faith. I am also getting woven into the deacons/pastoral care routine of calls and visits.
- I'm beginning a Bible study on the Books of Acts next week with the Women's Bible Study.
- I am meeting weekly on Saturday morning with the Men's Bible Study.

- I was given great creative license with my installation service and I enjoyed planning the music and texts for this service.

Focus on the future:

- Meet as many members as I can beyond the context of worship, classes, or meetings.
- My “Big Dream” or “Big Vision” for Mountain View - discipleship.
 - Discipleship means we are each growing more and more into the likeness of Jesus Christ.
 - One of the first challenges in setting on the course together is language. These are ideas and concepts we don’t talk about a lot, so we need to develop a common language and shared understanding of what discipleship means.
 - Second, we need to design the faith practices and communities that will shape, form, and story us into disciples of Jesus Christ.
 - Third, we need a practice of discipleship milestones or a reflective process of confirming the fruitfulness of our growth in discipleship. The realistic timeframe for this vision is years.
 - This process takes so long because some of the ingredients that are essential for discipleship growth are trust, authenticity, courage to be vulnerable, openness, graciousness, listening, live prayer together, Bible study, worship, service, generous giving, and a commitment to persevere with each other.

COUNCIL ACTION ITEMS

Compensation Policy - Bob Yost and Carol Powers

Bob, Carol and Barry Johnsrud have begun to look at the staff compensation policy. There was discussion on the compensation policy for our two pastors.

M/S/P that any annual compensation over the Synod Guideline be an equal percentage for all Mt. View’s Called clergy.

M/S/P that the 2022-2023 Church Council will be limited to twelve members.

M/S/P MVCC proceed with the development of the Senior Garden, contingent on a final agreement between MVLC and MVCC for improvements and maintenance.

M/S/P approval of Mt. View’s Revised Constitution. The Constitution will be presented to the congregation for its approval at the May 22nd Congregational Meeting.

I. Closing Prayer - Bob Yost