

# **MOUNTAIN VIEW LUTHERAN CHURCH**

## **Church Council Meeting**

**March 18, 2025 at 6:30 pm, Church Library**

### **Minutes**

#### **ATTENDANCE**

**Present:** Fred Albert, Monica Baker, Tomas Careaga, Jason Cornell (Treasurer), Kevin Dahl, Mary Beth Dahl, Skip Harrison, Megan Hutton, Becky Shaefer, Ken Swanson, Bob Yost

**Zoom Attendees:** Karen Hansen and John Meagher (connection dropped early in the meeting)

**Staff:** Pastor Eric Bostrom and Deacon Traci Vatne

#### **CALL TO ORDER**

The meeting was called to order by Council President Megan Hutton in the MVLC Library at 6:34 pm.

#### **OPENING PRAYER**

Pastor Eric led the Council in an opening prayer

#### **MINUTES**

The minutes of the February 18, 2025 meeting were reviewed.

**Motion:** Approve the minutes as posted

**Made by:** Kevin Dahl

**Second:** Mary Beth Dahl

**Action:** Passed

## **WRITTEN REPORTS**

**Motion:** Approve the reports as posted

**Made by:** Ken Swanson

**Second:** Fred Albert

**Action:** Passed

## **TREASURER'S REPORT**

Treasurer Jason Cornell provided a financial update for the month of February.

We fell short of our giving target by more than \$36K. After confirming that the deficit did not arise due to using multiple systems (Tithe.ly, Breeze and Elvano) , Jason and Andrea were able to determine that a number of members who do lump sum tithing in the first quarter of the year have not done so yet. Pastor Eric and Henry will meet on Wednesday March 19 to discuss phasing out the use of Shelby

At the February meeting the council discussed and approved opening a money market account at Umpqua Bank. Wording authorizing Jason to open the account is included in the Action Items later in this report.

## **PASTORS' REPORTS**

### **Pastor Eric**

The council reviewed the report submitted by Pastor Eric while he provided updates on the various activities reported. Of particular interest was the finalization of the MVCC lease. PB&J for the Homeless has started meeting in the gym and members of MVLC have shown up to help. Changes to key staff at MVCC and the Foodbank. A member has expressed her desire to begin researching MVLC becoming a Reconciling in Christ congregation. There is a definite process, but no one present can provide concrete details of what it involves. For now, it is agreed that information gathering is appropriate including finding out what congregations in our synod have gone through the process – perhaps Peace and Justice will be willing to participate in the information gathering. Fred said he would ask them about it.

### **Deacon Traci**

The council reviewed Deacon Traci's report, and she added that she will be leading adult education this Sunday, which will be a dialog between the older Rock Ministry youth and adult attendees on living our baptismal promises.

### **ACTION ITEMS**

#### **Submit approved wording to open Money Market Account**

Jason Cornell worked with a representative from Umpqua bank to meet the requirements for opening a Money Market Account. The required wording follows:

A motion has been made, second and approved to establish a Money Market account at Umpqua Bank.

Church Treasurer, Jason Cornell will establish the account as soon as possible and with full authority of this council.

The authorized signers for the new account will be:

Jason Cornell, Church Treasurer

Bob Yost, Council Vice President

Monica Baker, Council Member

*The motion has been made to approve this wording.*

**Made by:** Bob Yost

**Second:** Kevin Dahl

**Result:** Approved

#### **Extended Leave (Sabbatical) Program Guidelines**

Review and approve the requested changes in wording to the Extended Leave (Sabbatical) Program Guidelines.

**Motion:** Approve the changes in wording

**Made By:** Fred Albert

**Second:** Ken Swanson

**Result:** Approved

## **DISCUSSION ITEMS**

**Nominating Committee for 2025/2026 Church Council** – Megan suggested that the nominating committee follow-up with any individuals who expressed an interest in serving on the council but weren't chosen to serve in this term to see if any are still interested in doing so.

**Call Committee Update** - Ken stated that we have one candidate who has been interviewed once. It may be that more candidates may identify themselves as we move into Spring. In the meantime, the call committee is considering a second interview for the first candidate to obtain details that weren't gathered in the initial interview.

**Music and Worship** – Amy reported that the issues of concern with the primary piano have been addressed with work on the hammers and a good tuning. Pastor Eric states we have gained two to four years before we will need to consider purchasing another. The piano in the music loft is not suitable for use and can/should be removed. No further word on the cabinet.

**Capital Plan** – Fred states that the Property Committee has met and has recommended that the chapel be painted and two of the first floor windows on the west side be repaired. Bids have been identified from Martinson Painting (\$34,350.00) and Okanogan Mountain Homes (\$14,083.00). The committee suggests that an additional \$ 4,833.30 be set aside for likely cost increases due to damage repair not identified prior to the start of the projects. Fred is working on making the Excel Workbook he has been developing for Capital projects accessible to church council members.

**Council Representation MEF Committee 2025/2026** - Bob Yost will be leaving the council at the end of this term and Megan asked existing council members to prayerfully consider serving in this role.

**General Discussion** – Fred Albert stated that he and Pat Clement had a discussion about establishing a micro-loan program. He asked if anyone knew of any local group had such a program. Bob mentioned that the Korean community in Federal Way has a honey pot program that loans money for starting up a business.

**NEXT MEETING**

The next Council Meeting will be on Tuesday, April 15, 2025.

**Devotion:** Mary Beth Dahl

**Closing Prayer:** John Meagher

**Future Agenda Items:** the May 4 congregational meeting and fleshing out its agenda. The Capital plan and funding.

**CLOSING PRAYER**

Closing prayer was led by Bob Yost.

**ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting was adjourned at 8:00 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Monica Baker, acting secretary

## **Pastor's Report**

Pastor Eric's Report for the March 2025 Council Meeting:

- The MVCC lease is officially signed and in effect. This is a 5 year lease.
- I continue to meet with prospective new members one-on-one. April 6 is the New Member Class for current members and new members during adult education.
- My Bonhoeffer class has been averaging 60 adults the past two Sundays.
- The Parenting Class, which is meeting once a month, is 25 parents strong. Special thanks to Wendy Wadnizak for the idea and organizing. And thanks to Jeff Freshwater for teaching and leading the Parenting class.
- I attended the SWWA Synod Reconciling in Christ Educational Event hosted at Peace Lutheran, Puyallup on February 22.
- Emily Thompson has expressed interest in forming a team and beginning research into MVLC becoming a Reconciling in Christ congregation. She and I have talked and I am supportive of this first step.
- Presided over Joan Hamburg's graveside and memorial service on Feb 29-March 1.
- PB&J for the Homeless met for the first time in our gym on March 34d. I helped them get set up and joined them in making PB&Js.
- Lenten Midweek worship offering will be designated to Global Refuge. They are one of our benevolence partners and they are the organization that brought the Zahir and Kargar families to America from Afghanistan.
- Pastor Chelsea Globe will preach at MVLC on Sunday, May 4. She reached out to me after discovering that over the past few decades, MVLC is one of the top donors to UW campus ministry.
- Jesie Holden is leaving MVCC because she is taking another job. We will miss Jesie's partnership as the Director of the MVCC, but their family will continue to be members of MVLC.
- Kate Wright at the Foodbank is retiring, so there will be a new person that we will communicate with at the Foodbank. Lots of changes are happening on the other end of the parking lot.

## **Deacon's Report**

Deacon Traci's Report for the March 2025 Council Meeting:

Since last we met, I have led the first two mini-retreats.

- The 3<sup>rd</sup>-5<sup>th</sup> graders and parents met to discuss Baptism on February 23. The kids enthusiastically played in the water of the Baptismal font while we discussed things like:
  - Where the water comes from and what makes it holy.
  - What promises we receive in Baptism.
  - What does it mean to let our light shine?

A summary of this conversation will take place at the children's sermon on March 16.

- The K-3<sup>rd</sup> graders and parents experienced a Prayer Walk with eleven prayer stations on March 9. These stations will be set up for the whole congregation to enjoy on Sunday, March 23.

I will be facilitating an intergenerational Adult Ed/Youth class on Sunday March 23. We will discuss Living into our Baptismal Covenant. I hope you will join us!

The 5<sup>th</sup>-8<sup>th</sup> grade youth will learn from the Apostles Creed at a mini-retreat on Fri, March 28.

Deborah and I have started planning Vacation Bible School, which will be here before we know it. If you would like to volunteer, we'd love to have you join us! VBS takes place July 14-18.

We've got two big groups signed up to attend camp this summer. This makes my heart happy, as camp ministry is a huge part of the foundation of my faith journey. The younger kids and middle schoolers will attend Camp Lutherwood in Bellingham and the high school students will participate in a week of service at Camp Lutherhaven in Coeur d'Alene.

I look forward to preaching on March 16 and April 2, as well as on Maundy Thursday and at two midweek Lenten services.

I will be in Minnesota with family for a week in early April. This was planned before I knew that would be the interim minister at MVLC.

I am Yours in Christ,

Deacon Traci

## **Council Reports**

### Property committee Report

MVLC Property Committee Minutes from March 4<sup>th</sup>, 2025

#### **In attendance:**

Carolyn Dahle

Henry Peck

Fred Albert

#### **Recommendations:**

- The committee discussed and makes the following recommendations with regards to the Chapel:
- Martinson Painting to paint the chapel for \$34,250.00
- Okanogan Mountain Homes to repair two of the windows on the ground floor south side of the chapel for \$14,083.00.
- Set aside an additional \$4,833.30 (10%) for contingency.

#### **Repair**

- Had pest control inspect for mice 3/6/25. They identified two possible routes for mice to get in. One on the north side of the sanctuary, mortar has fallen out, Henry will talk to Dan to have them repair the mortar. The second route is underneath the sink in the Life Together Hall (two mice found in the sink). Our current pest control company will put outside bat traps in various areas.

**Preventative:**

- Hiring a company to treat the chapel MCCC and MVLC sanctuary roofs for moss and provide an estimate as to the condition of these roofs so we can prioritize and schedule replacement in future years (2026, 2027 etc.).

**Safety****Future Campus Activity:**

- Scout clean-up day scheduled 04/05/2025 (Need someone to provide hotdogs, chips and juice for scouts & crew. I will not be there on the 5<sup>th</sup>).

The committee will continue to review and refine the major projects list. The council has read rights to the folder.

In the property folder: Bids, Meeting Notes and Project Workbook>MVLC Campus.xlsx.

Future discussions:

What to do with the property north of the sanctuary

Parking lot fixtures (in progress).