

Mt. View Lutheran Church Council
March 21, 2023
Church Library 6:30-7:30pm

MINUTES

Attendance

Present: Ken Swanson, Kevin Dahl, Bob Yost, Skip Harrison, Gretchen Johnsrud, Karen Hansen, Carol Powers, Fred Albert, Emily Thompson
Jason Cornell - Treasurer

Zoom: Pastor Eric, Joel

Absent: Dan Lysne, Jenny Grayum

Call to Order

Kevin Dahl called the meeting to order at 6:30pm

Devotion

Carol Powers shared a devotions about diversity and inclusion - Colossians 3

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

It was M/S/P to accept the minutes of the Tuesday March 21, 2022 meeting of the MVLC Church Council

SUBMITTED WRITTEN REPORTS

It was M/S/P to accept the written reports for the February 21, 2023 Council Meeting that were submitted for its agenda by the following individuals and ministry groups:

Treasurer’s Report - submitted by Jason Cornell

A financial update was given by Jason.

President's Report - Submitted by Kevin Dahl

Emily Thompson and Carol Powers agreed to be on this year's nominating committee.

The worship and music team recommended that we move to one worship service this summer. There was a lot of discussion around this.

It was M/S/P to move to one service this summer for a "Summer of Invitation". There will be one service at 9:30am starting on June 25 and ending on September 3.

Living Hope Campaign task force - Bob Yost

Based upon the work performed by the Living Hope Campaign small committee to make suggestions for the disbursement of funds which were received at the last meeting, the following resolution is provided for Council consideration which would be presented at the next Congregation meeting in May 2023. This new allocation is based upon the fact that funds received in the Campaign were significantly less than was pledged. The resolution would be as follows:

The motion passed at the November 2019 Congregation meeting in which the funds anticipated from the Living Hope Campaign would be distributed is amended as follows:

\$400,000 toward mortgage debt (already paid)

\$ 50,000 toward the cost of the roof replacement of the Education Building (already paid)

\$100,000 of existing Campaign Funds to be paid toward mortgage debt

The balance of the funds received to be used toward Sanctuary and parking lot improvements as determined by the property committee (with Sanctuary lighting receiving priority)

In addition, the Congregation will request volunteers to form a sub-committee to determine the feasibility, cost and placement of a columbarium at MVLC and report back to the Church Council with its findings within 6 months.

It was M/S/P to present the recommendation from the Living Hope Campaign Task force to the congregation at the May congregational meeting.

Property - Fred Albert

The property committee met in Feb with new members and discussed what its scope is. Dan Neptun has provided the committee with the most current MVLC Campus work list to review.

Members:

Steve Anderson

Bill Kohler

Joan Kohler

Carolyn Dahle

Kelvin Machumu

Pastor Eric

In the process of finding more information on our present building management software.

Church Solutions ES/WOMS Bundle - Deluxe plan and have the COOLSPACE add on. In the process of finding out what does that enable us to do.

Deacons - Ken Swanson

Recently the group changed their monthly meetings from Thursday evenings to Saturday morning. This was done to try to increase participation, and to make it easier for those who have issues with driving at night. The process of adding new members to the ministry is complete, and the new deacons are proving to be valued additions to the Deacon Ministry.

Prayer Shawl Ministry - Jenny Grayum

The prayer shawl group continues to meet and keeps knitting and crocheting prayer shawls. They are also knitting hats for people who are experiencing homelessness, putting the hats in bags that the peace and justice group are making.

Staff Advocacy Committee - Carol Powers

Church Administrator Position

The Church Administrator position was re-posted on Zip Recruiter in mid-February. Two potential candidates were interviewed. It was decided to move one of those candidates forward to a second round interview. The interview teams were made up of a combination of members, pastors, staff and council. It

was decided to offer Henry Peck the office and manager position and he accepted. He will start on April 17

WA Cares Act

Also worth noting is the mandatory WA Cares Act is currently planned to go into effect on July 1, 2023. If an employee has not filed and received an exemption from the state, then a payroll deduction will occur as follows:

The WA Cares Fund will be supported by a premium paid by employees only. The premium has been set by state law at 0.58% of gross wages, or \$0.58 per \$100. For example, if an employee earns \$50,000 annually, the total annual premium is \$290 or \$12.08 per paycheck. Employee payroll deductions begin July 1, 2023, which means staff will see the first payroll deduction on their first paycheck that includes July 1 or later.

MVLC Staff will receive a reminder email about this in March.

Pastor's Written reports

Pastor Eric

- As of right now the Jan 2024 Holy Land Pilgrimage has 46 people registered and 16 people are from Mountain View. Future registrations will go on a waiting list until we reach 20 people for the second bus.
- The Mission Meetings are completed. I went to most of them and feel very encouraged by the feedback for the new mission statement. The Mission Statement Team, Emily T, Fred A, Ken S, and myself, will meet on Saturday, March 18, to review collected feedback forms and discuss adaptations to the mission statement.
- Pastor Bri and myself had a fruitful and meaningful experience at the Leading Well Retreat in AZ, Feb 7-10. Our reflections on this retreat will be on the council Google Drive.
- Lent has begun and our Mid-Week Lenten Worship theme is "Sparks By the Fire: Compassion and the Cross." We are using drama, Bible readings, a new evening liturgical setting, and the message to journey with Jesus to the cross.
- I met with Jesie Holden because we are both committed to meeting once a quarter to check in and strategize ways to partner together. One of our next major goals is scheduling a Campus Summit which will bring together representatives from Scouts, MVCC, Food Bank, Pastor Liz and her church, and MVLC.
- Marlene, PB, and myself are tracking several regular worshipping visitors who are interested in membership at Mt View. We are planning for a new member class on the Sundays in June. If you meet a visitor or guest in worship, please welcome them enthusiastically and be curious about their story

Pastor Bri

- Elementary Camp Overnight: We have a group of 19 kids and 3 adults going to Black Diamond Camp in Auburn for an overnight, March 25-26. This is the majority of our active kids in 1st-6th grade. It's also important for leadership to know that we are subsidizing the cost for each youth to attend. Camps for kids/youth have become extremely expensive. Given this, we may go slightly over budget in the retreat category for our children and youth for 2023. We are working hard to fundraise among the older youth to offset costs for camp and trip experiences.
- Youth Activities: A Spring Calendar has gone out to all middle and high school families with information for fellowship, formational, and fundraising activities for the next few months. Mentors and parents have really stepped up to help cover the absence of a Youth Ministry Coordinator by helping take the lead on events.
- Formation Retreats: 11 youth attended the Baptism Retreat in early March. Next up is a Prayer Retreat for 1st and 2nd graders in late April. I will also be offering an overview of the Faith Formation process on April 19th during Wednesday evening education, allowing time for conversation and questions.
- VBS: The VBS team met and affirmed that we will focus on ages Kindergarten – 5th grade again this year. Last year we had made a shift away from hosting preschool kids (ages 3 and 4) during VBS, not sure what the pandemic would bring and concerned with providing care for children who can't consistently wear a mask. But it turned out that the tone of the whole experience changed with an older group, making it more like a camp atmosphere where everyone could participate together. MVLC families with 4-year-olds will still be able to participate and join in the Kindergarten class, but for the general public we will host K-5th.
- Pastoral Acts: I will lead a graveside service for Ken Sturgeon on Friday March 17th.
- Vacation: I will be taking the week after Easter off to visit extended family in L.A. We'll also get to spend Suzie's 3rd birthday at the San Diego Zoo!

Closing Prayer - Emily Thompson

Respectfully Submitted,
Gretchen Johnsrud
Council Secretary

