

Mt. View Lutheran Church Council Agenda
April 19, 2022
Church Library 6:30-7:30pm

MINUTES

Attendance

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

Absent: Pr. Bri, Bob Linden

Call to order

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

Devotion

Bob Yost led devotions "Led By Hope" Romans 5

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

It was M/S/P to approve the minutes of the Tuesday March 15, 2022, meeting of the MVLC Church Council

SUBMITTED WRITTEN REPORTS

It was M/S/P to accept the written reports for the Tuesday, April 19, 2022, Council Meeting that were submitted for its agenda by the following individuals and ministry groups:

Treasurer's Report - submitted by Jason Cornell.

- An in-person update was given on the current financial status of the congregation.
- Jason shared the Scouts financial information and asked if we would like them to do an in person report like MVCC
 - We all agreed that they would come and provide an in-person report of Scout activities twice a year starting in August and then again in February before "Scout Sunday"

President's Report - submitted by Bob Yost

- Most of the focus of our Executive Committee meeting this month was on the May 22nd congregational meeting agenda. In addition to voting for some excellent candidates for the Council, MEF and Nominating Committees, we will also be presenting the revised MVLC Constitution as well as other conversations around stewardship.
- We will have a Zoom call for interested parties to ask any question they may have about the MVLC Constitution on Wednesday May 11 prior to the Congregational Meeting
- At the May 22 Congregational meeting, we will also request that a committee be formed of interested parties to review and make recommendation on the use of the Capital Campaign funds that are nearing \$100,000
- We continue to work on the timeline and details around our Church Administrator position.
- A MVLC Council and Staff retreat is being planned for early October and further details will be forthcoming.
- The Spring Council and staff social gathering will take place on May 14th, starting at 5:00pm at the home of Bob and Ann Yost. This event is open to Council members and staff along with their spouses or significant others. A request for attendance will be out this week

Peace and Justice - Beth Ann Johnson

- We have weeded out the beds of the MVLC garden and we will be planting for the food bank.
- Lutheran Community Services has asked us to help provide additional kits for Afghan refugees.
- We will organize "God's Work, Our Hands" Day in the fall (Sept. 11?)
- We are finalizing a letter to send to our Benevolence organizations, requesting more information on each to share with the congregation. We will go through and "grade" the organizations again this summer, and provide that information to the council and congregation during the budget process.

Friends in Faith - Karen Hansen

Currently, these are the fellowship groups

- Hiking—schedule TBD
- Basketball—schedule TBD
- FAMILY GAME NIGHT - First Fridays at 6:30 p.m. in the Gym and Education Building.

- PICKLEBALL - Evening Pickleball: First, third, and fifth Thursdays and second and fourth Fridays at 6:00 p.m. in the Gym. Morning Pickleball: Wednesdays at 10:00 a.m. in the Gym.
- CRAFT and CONVERSATION - Third Thursdays at 6:00 p.m. in the Life Together Hall.
- **Next Steps:** Work with the Council and with other members of the congregation to develop additional fellowship groups to start in the spring.

Administrative Position - Karen Hansen

- I was asked to work on refining the Administrative Assistant job description and developing additional outlets where we might market the position in the hopes that we could generate a pool of qualified applicants.
- I contacted other churches to determine their staffing levels and assignments.
- I then reviewed my research with a few members of Council who recommended a future meeting with the pastors to determine what their suggestions might be for a future position.

Next Steps: Continue discussions after Easter.

Property - Gretchen Johnsrud and Dan Neptun

- We have hired Archterra as our new landscaping maintenance company
- I'm waiting for Jeff Quinn to coordinate with the City of Edgewood for the requirements of replacing a future downed tree in front of the chapel
- We will trim the larger oak along 122nd ST E ourselves in late Spring
- Spring cleanup on April 2nd was a success!
- We're starting to discuss some capital improvements/equipment that may be appropriate for next year, to include:
 - replacing the front entry doors to the chapel at the 122nd ST E entrance;
 - purchasing a used scissors lift,
 - making some serious parking lot repairs
 - removing the mounds of dirt along the east side of our property
 - finding the right kind of low power lighting that will provide nighttime illumination for key features of our stained glass on the south wall of the gathering space.

Safe Return - Sonja Dahl

The CHD encourages everyone who is eligible to speak to their medical provider to discuss the Covid booster. Being vaccinated and boosted is the best protection against serious complications and decreases the risk of hospitalization from Covid-19.

Pastor Eric

- I'm visiting as many people as I can. These visits have been very enriching.
- Pastor Bri and I are beginning to develop an online, YouTube Weekly Bible Study that we will start in the summer.
- For the Fall Council retreat, I would like to propose that we focus this retreat on the vision and mission of the congregation.
- An invitation process for new Deacons will begin after Easter.
- I'm in conversation with Fred Albert to plan some hike days on Saturdays over the summer.
- Pastor Bri and I are just beginning to visit about restarting Wednesday evening programs in the Fall. This is a time when I would like to offer an adult faith formation experience called Faith Builders.
- I will be sharing music for a new liturgy called, "Behold I Make All Things New" with Brenna and the staff. My hope is that various musical part of this liturgy can be introduced throughout the summer and the back story of Ben Larson, the composer of this liturgy, can be shared in sermons. Targeting for the Fall to try the new liturgy as a whole.
- Rhonda and I close on our new house in Renton on April 19. We move in April 21.

Pastor Bri

- Rock Ministry Retreats: A Communion Retreat is scheduled for May 1st, which will include lunch, teaching and activities for our 3rd and 4th grade families.
- A Bible Retreat is scheduled for May 15th to present their first bibles to our 1st and 2nd graders and help them begin exploring and familiarizing themselves with them. We'll bless these Bibles in worship on Pentecost.
- If feels really good to begin returning to some of these formative teaching opportunities with our families. In the past, we've seen really strong turnout from families for these teaching milestones. I'm hopeful that commitment will continue to be strong.

- Middle and High School youth are active this month, both in leading Good Friday worship (for those not on Spring Break) and in preparing for their Pizza Fundraiser that will begin building their Summer Trip Fund for this year and next year.
- I am also working on an alternative HS Youth Trip that is focused on some disaster follow up to the wildfires in recent years. I am currently talking with families to gauge interest and commitment for the trip.
- VBS Update: VBS will be July 11-15th with the theme: Compassion Camp. We'll begin recruiting volunteers in May and plan to open registration in late May; June will be focused on seeking donations from the congregation for materials and supplies. July 10th will be volunteer training and decorating day.
- Continuing Education: I'll be taking 3 days of continuing ed (April 26-28) to focus on exploring how to further engage our children and youth in worship.
- Youth Director Position: A small team including Ken Swanson, Dan Lysne, Kyra Kehm-Goins and myself met to interview Pope McHenry for the part-time youth position. We are unanimously recommending to Council that we move forward and offer the position to Pope.
- Pope is still considering other employment, however he and I have been in conversation about the possibility of adjusting the hours of this position to potentially balance with other employment (still TBD). This could mean that we treat the Youth Position as a 10 hour/week position, or it may be the 20 hour/week as originally intended.

Council Action Item: approve hiring Pope McHenry for the Youth Position which can range from $\frac{1}{4}$ time to $\frac{1}{2}$ time in weekly hours.

COUNCIL ACTION ITEMS

It M/S/P to hire Pope McHenry for the part time Youth Position.

I. Closing Prayer - Carol Powers

Respectfully Submitted,

Gretchen Johnsrud
Council Secretary