

Mountain View Lutheran Church Council Meeting
May 19, 2026
Church Library 6:30 pm to 8:00 pm

ATTENDANCE

Present: Fred Albert, Megan Hutton, Monica Baker, Karla Briggs, Jason Cornell, Kevin Dahle, Karen Hansen, Ken Swanson

Staff: Pastor Eric

Absent: John Meagher

Guests (in-coming council members): Joel Dewitt (Zoom), Sam Jones, Dan Neptun, Gerry Philipsen, Chris Schaefer and Julie Williams

CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order by Council President Fred Albert in the MVLC Library at 6:33 pm.

DEVOTION AND OPENING PRAYER

Karen Hansen read a devotion she wrote based upon 1 Corinthians 12:4-7 and 1 Peter 4:10, then led the council in prayer.

MINUTES

The minutes from the April 21 2026 meeting were reviewed.

Motion: Approve the minutes as posted

Made by: Karen Hansen

Second: Megan Hutton

Action: Passed

The Written Reports were reviewed

Motion: Approve the written reports as posted

Made by: Karen Hansen

Second: Megan Hutton

Action: Passed

TREASURER'S REPORT

Treasurer Jason Cornell shared that giving in April was much lower than expected – in the magnitude of summer low attendance giving. Expected giving was over \$100,000.00 and tithes and offerings and other income (not including rental income) came to \$61,000.00. Some reasons for the deficit may include higher cost of living due to the increased cost of gas, electricity and food, the payment of federal income taxes (not everyone got refunds), and a combination of other possible factors we don't understand yet. Another reason may be that some of the givers of large amounts have passed away. While this is concerning, Jason feels that the reduced personnel costs in the coming months will help us. For the time being he will be stepping in as a volunteer interim administrator to facilitate the reorganization and to ensure that the tasks Henry performed continue to be completed.

Jason proposed that Deborah VanderLey be paid a stipend of \$1200.00 in recognition of and gratitude for her faithful devotion to the children's programs at MVLC. Some council members were concerned that the amount was too low, but Jason assured the council that Deborah is not interested in being employed and compensated as an employee.

Motion: Pay \$1200.00/\$100.00 per month as a stipend/gift for Deborah VanderLey. These monies will be pulled from Exalt funds.

Made by: Megan Hutton

Second: Kevin Dahl

Action: Passed

PASTOR'S REPORT

The council reviewed Pastor Eric's written report while he presented highlights. MVLC is looking to hire a piano accompanist and a choral director on a contract basis. The Personnel Support and Advisory Team is developing job descriptions and when completed will post the job opportunities.

Zoom is being retired at the end of the 2025/2026 term. We will be moving on to Microsoft Teams. Pastor Eric will provide links.

The incoming council will be installed during worship during a service in July.

There will be a council retreat in September.

PROPERTY COMMITTEE UPDATE

Karla Briggs updated the council that mischief in the parking lot after hours has been a concern. Possible solutions mentioned included gates, signs and cameras. The incoming council will need to consider these options. The highest priority is replacing the fascia on the main church building. To date, we have received two bids, one for \$40,000 and the other for \$68,000. Jason stated he is familiar with the company that submitted the higher bid and has scheduled a meeting with a representative of that company to learn the scope of work in the contract.

COUNCIL DISCUSSION

Not all incoming council members attended the meeting therefore orientation and the other agenda items specifically directed to incoming council members were not touched upon.

The Personnel Support Advisory (PSA) Team is working on an executive overview of the member dispute to provide to the incoming council. This council, for the most part believes that the issue is not closed, and it continues to require sensitive, respectful and circumspect treatment.

CLOSING PRAYER

Karla Briggs led the council in closing prayer.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 8:23 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Monica Baker, Secretary

PASTORS' REPORTS

Pastor Eric's Report to the May Council

First of all, thank you for the time away. It was refreshing and renewing. I have several meaningful stories to tell from my time away, so ask me and I'd love to share.

Thank you to Fred, Megan, Karen, Ken, and Kevin for your Council servant leadership, especially in this last difficult year. I look forward to the new ways you will share your gifts of time, talent, and treasure to advance Mt View's Mission to LOVE, GROW, and SHARE.

Thank you for Karla, John, and Monica for continuing your Council servant leadership for one more year, especially after a difficult year. Your Council experience will be invaluable for the eight new Council members coming aboard. Next year will be an exciting year to move in bold directions that help our mission and ministry grow.

Repeating what I already emailed you, Henry is no longer on staff. His position needs to change and grow as our ministry changes and grows. Jason Cornell is now the interim facilities and office manager. Jason's first task will be to discover what responsibilities have been tended to and what have not been tended to. Jason's experience as the interim will also help us define the roles and responsibilities of this staff position.

PSA and I are in the process of updating the music staff job descriptions. We are moving in the direction of splitting the responsibilities into two. We will have a contract musician who plays piano for worship, choir rehearsal, and memorials. And we will have a contract choir director who directs the choir and perhaps the bell choir.

A music survey was conducted to invite feedback from music ministry volunteers. We received 10 responses back and received helpful insights, including affirmation for moving in the direction of splitting the Music Director position into two contract musician positions. We also received strong feedback to continue the PLU student cohort program.

David Lewis' Memorial Service is Saturday, May 16 at 11am. Per our agreement, the individual in the matter of the member dispute will be in attendance. He and I have exchanged emails affirming this arrangement.

Moving to Microsoft Teams for video conferencing Council meeting starting in June with the new Council.

Thanks to the Nominating Team (John Meagher, Ken Swanson, Craig Murray, & Dotty Shireman) for inviting a great slate of nominees for MEF, Nominating, and Council.

The Project Charter: Equipping the Body, will be giving monthly updates to Council starting in June 2026 with the new Council. Role clarification is important! The PSA will be doing the work of assessing and investigating our current organizational strengths and weaknesses. PSA may have some suggestions for possible changes to policy or organizational structure. The role of Council will be deciding the ultimate direction Mt View takes based on what we learn from the Project Chart: Equipping the Body.

New Executive Council Emails: In the future, the folks who serve as President, Vice-President, and Secretary will be using the following emails:

pres@mtviewlutheran.org

vp@mtviewlutheran.org

sec@mtviewlutheran.org

Pastor Eric

Pastor Andrew's Report

Pastor Andrew's Report to the May MVLC Council Meeting:

April/May Big Rocks:

- 1) Successful Stakeholder Summit
- 2) Smooth operations in Pastor Eric's absence
- 3) Preparing narrative for Congregational Meeting regarding transitions and pivots.
- 4) Successful close of the Program Year
- 5) Increased buy-in from stakeholders re: vision for CYF program

Growing Edges:

- 1) Preparing Two Year Coordinated Curriculum Plan for Rock Ministry, including Ed Hour rotation for myself.
- 2) Preparing for Policy Team discussion of draft Safe Church Policy
- 3) Coordinating with parents re: National Youth Gathering fundraising
- 4) Articulation overarching pedagogy for Rock Ministry anchored in Christian Social Ethics.
- 5) Preparing material for Synod educational program re: White churches and racial identity.

Specific Actions:

- Weekly meetings w/Deborah, Plaster Eric (except when he was on leave), and staff
- 5 Parent 1-1
- 5 Congregant 1-1
- 2 Volunteer 1-1
- 2 Leader 1-1
- Attended Mt. Rainier Conference Gathering
- Visited Middle School Rock Ministry

- Convened and led Stakeholder Summit with 20+ attendees
- Visited Lutherwood Camp to meet with leadership, scope out the site and prepare for Camp Sunday
- Created and led K-2 Bible Retreat
- Met with Makena Travis to review and prepare for her baptism
- Attended Bishops Convocation to connect with Synod staff and clergy in our region.
- Convened and led Middle School and High School Fellowship Fire
- Met with MVCC ED to coordinate volunteer opportunity at its June Carnival
- Training on Reckoning with Racism curriculum
- Convened second Culture Bearers meeting for guidance and accountability
- Edited and shared draft Safe Church Policy with Policy Team and sent poll for first meeting.