

**MOUNTAIN VIEW LUTHERAN CHURCH**  
**Church Council Meeting**  
**June 20, 2023; 7 pm; MVLC Library**

**Minutes**

**ATTENDANCE**

Present: Fred Albert; Treasurer Jason Cornell; Kevin Dahl, Mary Beth Dahl Jenny Grayum, Karen Hansen; Skip Harrison; Megan Hutton, John Meagher, Becky Schaefer, Ken Swanson

Zoom: None

Absent: Dan Lysne, Bob Yost

Staff: Pastor Eric Bostrom; Pastor Bri Merkle

**CALL TO ORDER**

Following dinner and introductory remarks, the meeting was called to order by Council President Kevin Dahl at 6:33 pm.

**OPENING DEVOTION AND PRAYER**

President Kevin shared a devotion related to the new mission statement.

**PRESENTATION FROM THE MOUNTAIN VIEW COMMUNITY CENTER**

An update on the Mountain View Community Center was presented by Executive Director Jesie Holden and Board Chair Caitlyn Remington. Next year's calendar was discussed. Jesie announced that the Bound by Hope luncheon is scheduled for Spring 2024 with the Auction scheduled for October 2024. Kilometers for Kids is scheduled for Saturday, June 24; and there is still room for more community participation. The summer feeding program begins next week, and there is a food supply list of needs posted to the Website. Board Chair Caitlyn Remington has been appointed Assistant Director, and Jason Cornell will be serving as Treasurer.

**MINUTES**

The minutes of the May 16, 2023 meeting were reviewed.

*Motion:* Approve the minutes as presented.

*Made By:* Ken Swanson

*Second:* Fred Albert

*Action:* Passed

## **WRITTEN REPORTS**

The written reports presented by the pastors were reviewed.

*Motion:* Approve the reports as presented.

*Made By:* Mary Beth Dahl

*Second:* Ken Swanson

*Action:* Passed

## **TREASURER'S REPORT**

Treasurer Jason Cornell presented a financial update.

- Role of Council was reviewed.
- Tithes and Offerings in May were \$55,329; less than budgeted.
- Year-to-date Tithes and Offerings were \$384,113; less than budgeted but more than compared to the same time last year.
- Increase in net operating revenue this month compared to budget was less than the increase that was budgeted. Net operating revenue reported at \$10,228.
- Increase in net operating revenue year-to-date compared to budget but more than the decrease at the same time last year; net operating revenue reported at \$15,379.
- Decrease in net operating revenue year-to-date is more than the decrease at the same time last year.
- Jason also provided a more in-depth monthly financial statement for the Council to review. Discussion followed. Jason encouraged Council members to contact him with questions.

## **PRESIDENT'S REPORT**

President Kevin led the Council in prayer.

### Council Orientation and Meeting Schedule

President Kevin reviewed Council roles and responsibilities. In addition to participating in Council meetings, members are asked to serve as representatives to various committees and activities.

The meeting schedule including responsibilities for Devotions and Closing Prayer was presented. Council members were asked to contact Karen Hansen with any changes to the schedule including notifications of absence.

The 2023-2024 Council will continue to meet on the third Tuesday of the month with meetings scheduled from 6:30 to 7:30 pm, and the Executive Board will continue to meet on the Tuesday prior to the Council meeting.

## Committee Responsibilities and Appreciation Opportunities

President Kevin reviewed the committee responsibilities and appreciation opportunities assigned to last year's Council members and asked that they be maintained for the next month. Due to the fact that Gretchen Johnsrud served last year, there is an immediate need for Council representation to the Mountain View Community Center. Please contact Kevin if interested in serving as that liaison. Brief written reports from Council representatives are requested to be sent to Karen Hansen prior to the Executive Board meeting.

## Creation of a "To Do" List of Ongoing Projects

President Kevin announced the creation of an ongoing list of future items to be considered by Council:

- Parking lot
- Property across the street
- Church management software (Shelby system)
- Columbarium
- Potential capital campaign
- 125<sup>th</sup> Anniversary (2029) Kickoff in Fall 2024
- Community Center Relationship

## Use of Funds

Bob Yost is coordinating a meeting of Congregational members interested in establishing a process to determine whether a Columbarium will be built. The meeting is set for Saturday, July 8, 2023 at 9:30 am at the Church. Council members were invited to attend. An announcement of the meeting will be made during Sunday Worship services, and Pastor Bri will contact Troy to announce the meeting in the E-News.

Council also discussed the potential use of the \$5,000 trust fund check received by the Church. Discussion was held. Further discussion was postponed to the July Council meeting.

## **ACTION ITEMS**

### Election of Officers

Election of Council officers for 2023-2024 was held. The following candidates were presented: President Kevin Dahl, Vice President Bob Yost, Secretary Karen Hansen.

*Motion:* Elect the slate of officers as presented.

*Made By:* Fred Albert

*Second:* Jenny Grayum

*Action:* Passed

### Appointment of Treasurer

President Kevin presented the appointment of Jason Cornell as Council Treasurer for 2023-2024.

*Motion:* Appoint Jason Cornell to the position of Council Treasurer.

*Made By:* Karen Hansen

*Second:* Mary Beth Dahl

*Action:* Passed

### **PASTORS' REPORTS**

Pastor Eric's meeting report is presented at the end of these minutes. There were no additions presented at the meeting.

Pastor Bri's meeting report is presented at the end of these minutes. The following items were added:

- Recognition that only one nursery attendant will be available throughout the summer months. Volunteers have been appointed in case of an unexpected increase in the number of children attending the nursery.
- Edgewood Community Picnic will be held on Saturday, July 15. There is need for at least one Council member to assist from 2-4:30 in the Mountain View booth, and additional members were invited to attend any time during the day. Interested Council members should contact Pastor Bri.
- Brunch will be held on Sunday, July 9 from 10:30 to noon to celebrate Pastor Eric's 20<sup>th</sup> year of ordination. There is need for at least one Council member to assist with the planning of this event; interested Council members should contact Pastor Bri.

### **CLOSING PRAYER**

President Kevin closed the meeting in prayer.

### **NEXT MEETING**

The next Council meeting will be held on Tuesday, July 18, 2023 at 6:30 pm at the MVLC Library with Fred Albert scheduled to give Devotions and Bob Yost scheduled for the Closing Prayer.

### **ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting was adjourned at 9:10 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Secretary Karen Hansen

## Written Reports

### Pastor Eric

This is Pastor Eric's report to Council for June 2023:

- The staff had a day retreat at the Dumas Bay Centre, lead by Julie Williams, to discern our staff values. The five staff values we discerned are Honesty - Appreciation - Respect - Joy - Honesty - Innovation.
- Pastor Nate Sutton and I have been appointed by Bishop Jaech as co-deans of the Mt Rainer Conference.
- I attended the Southwestern Washington Synod Assembly at Messiah Lutheran in Auburn.
- PB, Gretchen & Hannah Johnsrud, and I are organizing group building and study meetings for the 22 people from Mt View going to the Holy Land in Jan 2024.
- PB and I will gone two Sundays in Jan 2024 while leading the Holy Land trip. We've lined up Pastor Chelsea Global from UW Campus Ministry and Pastor Kim Latterell to preach and lead worship these two Sundays.
- Mt View hosted a successful refugee art show on Saturday, May 13, with about 50 visitors who are clients of the Food Bank.
- In concert with our Honoring our Neighbor's Faith series on Sunday mornings, we had good groups from Mt View worship at Temple Beth El in Tacoma and visit the Islamic Center in Tacoma.
- Thank you for the time to travel to Eastern Washington to watch my son golf in the State Golf Tournament.
- Reflections on the May Congregational Meeting: I liked the open conversation we had about the remaining Capital Campaign funds. We were not unanimous, but this is okay. I'm encouraged that we are growing in a culture of speaking with more courage and listening with more grace.
- On June 25 we will welcome about 25 new members to Mt View. This is an exciting group of young and old, singles, families, and couples. This large new member class is a reflection of the growing hospitality, welcome, and excitement that's building at Mt View.
- After a process of three Wednesday evening classes of meaningful conversation about our practice of open communion, we are opening up our communion table to allow even those who are not baptized to receive the bread and wine of communion. For the people engaged with the process, this was not unanimous, but the majority of voices left this was a faithful and grace-filled direction to take our worship life. To further explain the theological and biblical basis for this new open communion direction, PB and I are creating a video to share these insights.
- PB and I published a six-video series explaining the meaning of the Lord's Prayer. You can find it on Mt View's YouTube channel.
- My wife, Pastor Rhonda, and I are doing a pulpit swap on Sunday, July 23. I will preach at Holy Trinity and she will preach at Mt View.

## **Pastor Bri**

This is Pastor Bri's report to Council for June, 2023:

**Graduate Recognition:** We blessed and sent 3 graduates in worship. We also delivered quilts to 2 grads and their families who haven't been active lately; they were received with joy and gratitude. It's a meaningful way to express the care and support of the congregation even for those who haven't participated in some time.

**Youth Trip:** We leave Saturday on a red-eye flight to N.C. for a week. 5 MVLC youth are attending with 3 Calvary youth. We'll be learning about the complexities of homelessness, hearing personal accounts from individuals who are current or formerly homeless, and joining in service projects.

**VBS:** Please continue signing up to bring supplies! Registration is active and we already have a lot of kids from beyond MVLC signed up. The VBS planning team has determined that our VBS offering will go to the Zahir family, which fits especially well with our theme of exploring Christian compassion through seeing the basic needs of all living things. We will practice compassion by helping meet some needs the Zahir family faces.

**Nursery update:** With consultation from Exec. and young families, I shifted down to 1 nursery attendant through the summer months. It was a natural transition in staffing and I expect lite nursery use this summer. I have some congregation members on standby if we ever have more than 2 kids on a given Sunday. I also have a paging device for the nursery attendant to reach staff or ushers if help is needed.

**Edgewood Community Picnic:** This is a city of Edgewood event on Saturday July 15<sup>th</sup>. MVCC and the Food Bank invited us to share a booth with them. We still need a few more people to help, ideally: 1 person from 9:30-12pm, 1 person from 12-2pm, 1-2 people from 2-4:30pm (this is the priority shift as we have no one yet).

**Upcoming Women's Retreat:** A small group of Cornerstone women has been meeting to lay plans for another women's retreat. I'm working on a contract with Camp Indianola for Feb. 23-25, 2023. We'll put out a Save the Date as soon as the contract is finalized. This retreat will be self-funded through registrations.

**Flathead:** I'll be helping drive youth to Flathead on Sunday July 16<sup>th</sup> and driving home on Monday July 17<sup>th</sup>.

**T-Shirt Sales:** You'll be seeing more info soon for a T-Shirt with the new mission statement "Love. Grow. Share." and MVLC's name on it. Lori Neptun is organizing these sales as a fundraiser to support families going to Holden next summer.

**Memorial Service:** I'm leading the service for Nelson Eddy, connected to member Terri Eddy, on Sunday July 2<sup>nd</sup> at 2pm.