

MOUNTAIN VIEW LUTHERAN CHURCH
Church Council Meeting
July 15, 2025; 6:30 pm; Church Library

ATTENDANCE

Present: Fred Albert, Monica Baker, Karla Briggs, Jason Cornell, Kevin Dahl, Megan Hutton, John Meagher, Ken Swanson

Zoom/Phone: Karen Hansen

Staff: Pastor Eric Bostrom, Deacon Traci Vatne

Guest: Emily Thompson, Call Committee Chair

CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order by Council President Fred Albert at 6:31 pm.

OPENING PRAYER

Karla Briggs shared a recording from Sharon Says So about our neighbors/enemies, then led the Council in prayer.

MINUTES

The minutes of the June 17, 2025 meeting were reviewed

Motion: Approve the minutes as posted

Made by: Ken Swanson

Second: Karla Briggs

Action: Passed

WRITTEN REPORTS

The written reports were reviewed.

Motion: Approve the reports as posted

Made by: Karla Briggs

Second: Kevin Dahl

Action: Passed

TREASURER'S REPORT

Treasurer Jason Cornell gave an overview of the month of June by stating that tithes and offerings for the month were \$60,732 which was lower than expected even with the planned level of summer giving. Expenses were paid for the Chapel project and after taking into account the \$27,804 paid to the painter, giving versus expenses were a wash. During the discussion of the monthly treasurer's report, Megan Hutton mentioned that she noticed that Tithe.ly has not processed multiple automated payments she set up for her planned giving. She asked that Tithe.ly be checked to determine whether other members who have set up giving using any method other than "one time" have not missed payments also.

CALL COMMITTEE REPORT

Emily Thompson, chair-person of the Call Committee reported that the committee has decided upon a candidate of choice for the associate pastor position at MVLC. The Candidate of Choice is a pastor of a small congregation in West Seattle. The entire Call Committee is enthusiastic about the Candidate of Choice. The Call Committee's role in bringing an associate pastor on board is now for all intents and purposes complete, and the Council will be working to complete the process.

DISCUSSION – CANDIDATE OF CHOICE

Since the Candidate of Choice is not a Lutheran pastor, the process from this point on is somewhat different. He will be contracted, not called, and among our next steps is to schedule a meet and greet weekend, which would include a youth activity event, worship with the early and later services, adult education and a meal with the MVLC Council and staff. Pastor Eric advised that we should set up a zoom meeting with Pastor Rebecca Shjerven soon because she will be retiring on August 16. Pastor Rebecca will assist us in planning our next steps.

Karen Hansen expressed concern that the Council be very clear that the Candidate of Choice is not of the Lutheran tradition and that this be well understood by the congregation by the time we meet to approve contracting him.

In the meantime, the Council determined it appropriate to start the contract development process.

Motion: accept the recommendation of the Call Committee identifying the Candidate of Choice.

Made by: John Meagher

Second: Karla Briggs

Action: Passed

Motion: use the Synod guidelines for a pastor with ten years of service as the compensation to offer the Candidate of Choice. This amount may be adjusted if appropriate.

Made by: John Meagher

Second: Kevin Dahl

Action: Passed

Pastor Eric will contact Pastor Rebecca Shjerven to schedule the Zoom meeting.

PASTOR'S REPORT

Pastor Eric

The Council reviewed the report Pastor Eric submitted while he shared that he is particularly excited and proud of the upcoming campus wide Back to School Event The Mountain View Community Center, the Iglesia Celebracion de Vida and Mountain View Lutheran Church are collaborating to provide 1,000 back packs, many pairs of socks and meals for children in the Edgewood community. He is also pleased that plans are being developed to perform a community service project named God's Work Our Hands. He encouraged council members to take leadership roles in this event.

Deacon Traci

Deacon Traci shared the updated Boundary Expectations for Adults document. The council agreed that the July version is greatly improved, but suggested minor changes that should be incorporated to remove any ambiguity. Deacon Traci agreed to make the changes and provide the updated document to Pastor Eric to give to Jim Hushagen for his legal analysis. Deborah Vanderlay plans to implement the updated policy during the beginning of the school year activities when mentors and other adult helpers will be brought back on board in support of our youth programs.

COUNCIL REPORTS

There were no council reports to review/discuss during the July Meeting.

CLOSING PRAYER

Kevin Dahl led the council in closing prayer.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 8:20 pm

Respectfully submitted,

Monica K Baker, Secretary