

Mountain View Lutheran Church • Church Council Meeting  
Tuesday, August 17, 2021 • 6:30 p.m.  
MVLC Library

Minutes

Attendance

Present: Karen Hansen, Skip Harrison, Gretchen Johnsrud, Bob Linden, Ken Swanson, Emily Thompson, Bob Yost. Treasurer Jason Cornell.

Absent: Pastor Bri Merkle, Gerry Philipsen, Carol Powers.

Guest: Sam Jones.

Staff: Pastor Mike Greenwalt, Troy Kehm-Goins, Pastor Kim Latterell.

Call to order

President Bob Linden called the meeting to order.

Devotion

Emily Thompson led the council in a time of devotional prayer.

Approval of minutes

**It was M/S/P to approve the minutes of the Tuesday, July 20, 2021 meeting of the MVLC Church Council.**

Submitted written reports

**It was M/S/P to accept written reports for Tuesday, August 17, 2021 that were submitted from the following individuals and ministry groups, including some of these highlights:**

TREASURER'S REPORT, submitted by Jason Cornell.

An in-person update on the current financial status of the congregation, as well as some of the transition to working with Battershell & Nichols for bookkeeping, accounting, and payroll.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT, submitted by Bob Linden.

Partnering with American Red Cross to have the MVLC campus serve as a Facility Shelter in case of an emergency or disaster.

PROPERTY REPORT, submitted by Dan Neptun.

There is currently an extended exterior paint shortage, which has postponed some of our on-campus painting projects. The Honey Doers will mow lawns until a new landscaping vendor is identified, after the sudden and unexpected announcement of the closure of Blue Sky Landscape.

CALL COMMITTEE REPORT, submitted by Ken Swanson.

The Call Committee is currently reviewing the Rostered Minister's Profile (RMP) for a candidate.

BOOKKEEPING REPORT, submitted by Carol Powers.

Battershell & Nichols is transferring various data from MVLC's Shelby church management software to their platforms. They still anticipate starting bookkeeping, accounting, and payroll services on September 1, 2021.

CELL TOWER REPORT, submitted by Carol Powers.

Per Verizon's agent on July 19, 2021, the contract is still with Verizon's legal counsel for review.

PEACE and JUSTICE REPORT, submitted by Beth Ann Johnson.

1. The Peace and Justice Ministry Group identified seven projects for MVLC's "God's Work, Our Hands" Day of Service on Saturday, September 11, 2021.
2. Peace and Justice has been reviewing our various benevolence recipients and ministry partners toward recommendations regarding 2022 benevolences.

RETURN to WORSHIP REPORT, submitted by Sonja Dahl.

The Return to Worship Team meets on Thursday, August 19, 2021. They don't anticipate any changes unless COVID rates increase to the point of needing to pause in-person worship.

FRIENDS in FAITH REPORT, submitted by Karen Hansen.

Karen provided an overview of the various "Friends in Faith" small groups, their participants, and the current status of activity.

PASTOR'S REPORT, submitted by Pastor Briana Merkle.

Pastor Bri provided updates on the various plans and preparations for fall programming.

PASTOR'S REPORT, submitted by Pastor Mike Greenwalt.

Pastor Mike provided updates on the various transitions in the areas of Administration, Personnel, and Bookkeeping.

Report action items

The following action items were discussed.

**Council authorized the Finance Committee to make recommendations about some of the designated funds.**

**It was M/S/P to approve Gretchen Johnsrud to submit an application with the regional American Red Cross office, in order to have the MVLC campus open for consideration as an emergency center.**

**It was M/S/P to amend Pastor Kim's work agreement to increase work hours to .625 FTE basis, starting September 1, 2021 and ending December 31, 2021, with accompanying compensation.**

**It was M/S/P to approve 100% of Pastor Kim's salary toward his housing allowance.**

**It was M/S/P to approve the Children and Family job description.**

There was discussion about changes to the Music Director job description, especially considering exit interview questions from Susan. Some of these changes included working 30 hours per week rather than 24 and health insurance for .75 FTE position.

The Church Administrator job description is still receiving its "final polish." How many hours? What kind of benefit package should be part of description? Bob Linden, Jason Cornell, and Pastor Bri will discuss additional concerns (how many hours per week, what kind of benefit package should be included), put a package together, and get it posted.

Sam Jones from Constitutional Review Committee joined the meeting to answer questions of the Church Council members regarding the work of the Committee on the first ten chapters of the Constitution. Sam will return for the September Council meeting to answer questions about the Committee's work on the remaining chapters.

The Council gave its blessing to the Peace and Justice Ministry Group seeking Thrivent Action Team grants for some of the "God's work. Our hands." Day of Service projects on Saturday, September 11, 2021.

Friends in Faith small groups will be discussed at the September meeting.

Regarding Shelby Church Management software, Pastor Mike recommends one-year contract, while also proposing starting the transition to new software in June 2022 for September 2022 change.

**It was M/S/P to approve a one-year contract with Shelby.**

Closing prayer  
Bob Linden closed the meeting with prayer.

Respectfully submitted,

Troy Kehm-Goins  
Recording Secretary