

Mountain View Lutheran Church • Church Council Meeting  
Tuesday 10 September 2019 • 6:30 p.m.  
MVLC Library

## Minutes

### Attendance

Present: Michael Brauhn, Jason Cornell, Sonja Dahl, Bob Linden, Carol Powers, Wendy Wadnizak, Karin Weberg, Julie Williams.

Absent: Mary Beth Peterson, Emily Thompson.

Staff: Troy Kehm-Goins, Pastor Briana Merkle, Pastor John Vaswig.

### Call to order

President Carol Powers called the meeting to order.

### Devotions

Wendy Wadnizak led devotions based upon Matthew 6:34 and the concept of “taking it one day at a time.” Also discussed were notions of the sabbath and legalism versus “resting in Jesus.” The council prayed together.

## Minutes

**It was M/S/P to approve the minutes of the Tuesday 27 August 2019 meeting of the MVLC Church Council.**

### Financial update

August giving was about \$13,000 lower than expected levels and year-to-date giving was about \$31,500 below expected levels. However, we are still about \$10,700 higher than the same time last year. (About a 1.69% increase.) Giving for the first two Sundays in September has been slightly above expected amounts, but we are still \$28,600 below expected year-to-date giving levels.

General fund reserves were just below \$16,000 at the end of August and are currently just over \$5,000 after paying third-quarter benevolences.

#### Pastor's report

Pastor Briana Merkle spoke regarding the following:

- The turnout for Gathering Day was strong.
- Rock Ministry classes signed thank you notes to the Honey Doers for their work painting the Education Building classrooms.
- Seeking a part-time (10-12 hours per week) Youth Leader.
- Accompanying Helen Larson and her family during Helen's final days.
- Preparing for various fall programming—the introduction to “The Parables of Jesus,” Deuteronomy for the Women's Bible Study, the Mathetria Women's Retreat, and “Who Is My Neighbor?” curriculum for ExALT Kid's Classes.
- Teaching the high school Rock Ministry class, using the Enneagram as a tool for faith formation.
- The upcoming Acolyte Retreat.
- High school fellowship event with other local Lutheran congregations.
- All Saints Youth Worship.
- Trunk or Treat, on Thursday 10/31, in conjunction with the Mountain View Community Center and “Seeds of Change.”
- October high school parent meeting.
- “Circle of Welcome” training and the possibility of sponsoring a refugee family.

#### Pastor's report

Pastor John Vaswig spoke regarding the following:

- The danger of the staff responding to all of the congregation's needs, without the participation of laity. The need for the staff to set boundaries and say “No.”
- Seeking a Bookkeeper.
- Seeking a Music Director, or, perhaps, multiple people for the tasks of the position.
- The start of ExALT: Extraordinary Active Life Together tomorrow.
- The upcoming Adult Education class, which may “ruffle some feathers.”
- Pastoral care response of both Pastor John and Pastor Bri.

#### Tables and chairs for the Gathering Space

Bob Linden presented two possibilities of ten chairs and two tables, with a cost of approximately \$2,400.

Mission Endowment Fund (MEF) available funds for 2019  
**It was M/S/P to approve the MEF Committee's \$23,000 allocation of funds available for 2019 grant applications.**

Council Retreat homework

President Carol Powers reminded everyone to complete their homework for the Saturday 9/14 Church Council Retreat.

Other business

Items briefly discussed included:

- Jason Cornell spoke about the PLU Convocation.
- A “cross” rendering for the possible cell phone tower.
- *How do we invite and incorporate others into existing or new small groups?*
- *Is there a need for an orientation packet for new members of the Council?*

Next meeting

The next meeting of the MVLC Church Council is at 6:30 p.m. on Tuesday 24 September 2019 in the Library. Carol Powers leads devotions.

Adjournment

Carol Powers “prayed us out.”

Respectfully submitted,

Troy Kehm-Goins  
Recording Secretary