

Mountain View Lutheran Church • Church Council Meeting  
Tuesday, September 21, 2021 • 6:30 p.m.  
MVLC Library

Minutes

Attendance

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

Absent: Gerry Philipsen.

Guest: Sam Jones.

Staff: Troy Kehm-Goins, Pastor Kim Latterell, Pastor Bri Merkle.

Call to order

President Bob Linden called the meeting to order.

Devotion

Carol Powers led devotions based upon Mark 4, seeds, and the kingdom of God. The council prayed together.

Approval of minutes

**It was M/S/P to approve the minutes of the Tuesday, August 17, 2021 meeting of the MVLC Church Council.**

Submitted written reports

**It was M/S/P to accept written reports for Tuesday, September 21, 2021 that were submitted from the following individuals and ministry groups, including some of these highlights:**

TREASURER'S REPORT, submitted by Jason Cornell.

- Giving for the month of August was lower than expected with income of \$67,545 (compared to Spending Guideline of \$74,312 (-\$6,767)).
- Our year-to-date giving is currently \$49,649 below the 2021 Spending Guideline.

- Upcoming large expenses in October include property taxes and benevolences.
- Stewardship Ministry Group is working on Commitment Cards for 2022.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT, submitted by Bob Linden.

- The search continues for the following staff positions: Church Administrator, Director of Music Ministries, and Children and Family Coordinator.
- A member of the Mountain View Community Center staff and/or leadership will attend MVLC Church Council meetings quarterly.

RETURN to WORSHIP REPORT, submitted by Sonja Dahl.

- All groups (including small groups, rentals, Scouts, Bible study groups) are required to eat outside due to the highest recorded number of COVID cases in Pierce County.

BOOKKEEPING REPORT, submitted by Carol Powers.

- The creation of a new “chart of accounts” to increase efficiency and workflow of the bookkeeping process.
- Thankfulness for the immense amount of work by Marlene Wright and Jason Cornell to ensure a smooth transition to Battershell & Nichols taking on our bookkeeping.
- Payroll process started through Paychex. Pay periods were adjusted. Double payment occurred for the last few days of August, so the next paycheck for employees will be somewhat smaller.
- State and federal taxes paid for year to date are slightly off. That is being corrected.
- Washington L&I changed their “salaried employees” threshold. Some employees had to be converted to hourly employees. Others will likely follow in the future.

PEACE and JUSTICE REPORT, submitted by Beth Ann Johnson.

- Peace and Justice continues working on recommendations for the 2022 Benevolences.

MVCC REPORT, submitted by Emily Thompson.

- MVCC staff has noticed a decline in volunteer participation. Is online volunteer sign up (GalaxyDigital) stopping people from volunteering?

PASTOR'S REPORT, submitted by Pastor Briana Merkle.

- Pastor Bri provided updates on various administrative tasks, job searches, Rock Ministry, and middle school/high school youth ministry.

PASTOR'S REPORT, submitted by Pastor Kim Latterell.

- Pastor Kim provided updates on the Worship Team, Deacons, Stewardship Ministry Group, and adult education.

Report and action items

The following report and **action** items were discussed.

- The most recent Lead Pastor candidate has withdrawn their name from consideration.
- The Chapel altar has been restored after being moved and slightly damaged. Conversation was had with Celebración Iglesia de Vida.
- Cell phone tower legal review has taken place, and the process seems to be moving forward again.
- Karen Hansen, Gretchen Johnsrud, and Pastor Kim Latterell will meet to discuss and dream what small group ministry at MVLC could entail. Bob Yost will contact Allison in the Synod Office to see if there are other SWWA congregations that have successful small group ministries.
- Sam Jones from the Constitutional Review Committee was present to answer questions about recommended revisions, including an Audit Committee (13.02) and the possibility of a preamble. It was asked if 12.04.b would provide some of the language that would be included in a preamble and if that was enough.

**It was M/S/P to sign the September 21, 2021 engagement letter with Battershell & Nichols to prepare our PPP loan forgiveness paperwork.**

Closing prayer

Bob Yost closed the meeting with prayer.

Next meeting: 10/19. Gerry leads devotions. Gretchen leads closing prayer.

Respectfully submitted,

Troy Kehm-Goins  
Recording Secretary