

Mountain View Lutheran Church • Church Council Meeting  
Tuesday 24 September 2019 • 6:30 p.m.  
MVLC Library

Minutes

Attendance

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

Absent: Bob Linden, Mary Beth Peterson, Emily Thompson.

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

Guests: MVCC Executive Director Jesie Holden, MVCC Board Chair Ken Edmonds.

Call to order

President Carol Powers called the meeting to order.

Devotions

President Carol Powers led devotions based upon the concept of judgment—our mortal judgment versus the righteous judgment of God—and Romans 2:1-8. The council prayed together.

Mountain View Community Center

Mountain View Community Center (MVCC) Executive Director Jesie Holden and MVCC Board Chair Ken Edmonds were present to provide the Church Council an update of the work of the MVCC. Highlights included:

- The financial reserves have more than doubled over the past year. Monthly giving has increased, both in the amount and the number of sustaining givers. The 2018 auction was successful and the MVCC is working on diversifying its income sources.
- The staff has been restructured. Three long-term employees are no longer working at the MVCC and five new employees have been hired for (mostly) new positions—senior programming coordinator, health/fitness instructor, grant consultant, event consultant, accountant. Additionally, the MVCC was awarded two AmeriCorps positions.

- Changes to programs, which included giving ownership of the Directions Program to another organization, expanding senior programs, and expanding the scope and scale of the KidPower Pack program.
- Explanation of their five “Strategic Imperatives” for 2019–2022: (1) engage community; (2) enhance programs; (3) promote a positive campus; (4) strengthen sustainable operations; and (5) grow board capacity and diversity.
- Recent review and updating of their vision statement, mission statement, and core values.

## Minutes

### **It was M/S/P to approve the minutes of the Tuesday 10 September 2019 meeting of the MVLC Church Council.**

#### Financial update

Giving for the past two weeks has been just above expectations and slightly ahead of expected September giving to date. We still need to make up for weaker giving in August.

#### Pastor’s report

Pastor Briana Merkle spoke regarding the following:

- Training at the Acolyte Retreat, which resulted in six new acolytes.
- Rev. Rebecca Shjerven will preach at the All Saints Youth Worship.
- Opportunities to sign up for Rock Ministry-related events after worship the next few weeks: Trunk or Treat and notecard fundraiser.
- There are 25 women registered for the upcoming Women’s Retreat. We still need about 10 more women to sign up.
- The Youth Leader position description has been sent out to various groups.
- Upcoming Rock Ministry rites.
- Carianne Kehm-Goins has agreed to serve as Rock Ministry Superintendent.
- Attending the PLU Lutheran Studies Conference on Thursday 10/3.

#### Pastor’s report

Pastor John Vaswig spoke regarding the following:

- We currently have three candidates for our open Bookkeeper position.
- Shifting the Music Director a bit, so that it no longer includes oversight of the Children’s Choir or Sanctuary Choir, and Carmen has every fifth

or sixth Sunday off. Those changes mean the need for choir directors and an organ player on the Sundays without piano.

- Pastor Bri and Pastor John met with an ecumenical group of pastors gathered together by Pastor Heidi Calhoun for conversation.
- MVLC's "strength" is to entertain teaching opportunities with the possibility of "changing her mind."
- The annual Lutheran-Catholic "dialogue" event on Friday 10/11, with Dr. Barbara Rossing.
- Is it time to teach another class on hospitality? We still aren't good at "getting outside" our circles of comfort.

Other business

Items briefly discussed included:

- Introducing the Gathering Space stained glass window to the congregation via the sketch from the artist on the front cover of the worship folder on All Saints Sunday.
- Preparing an orientation packet for new council members.
- The council agreed to provide \$500 toward the annual Lutheran-Catholic community event, with Mountain View Lutheran Church serving as a sponsor.
- The council agreed to provide \$5,000 toward a series of events featuring Rev. Mitri Raheb in March (3-5) 2020, with Mountain View Lutheran Church serving as a sponsor.
- **It was M/S/P to allow the Mountain View Community Center to serve wine, beer, and hard cider at their Saturday 11/2 donor event.**
- **It was M/S/P to approve the new vision statement, mission statement, and core values of the Mountain View Community Center as recommended by the MVCC Board of Directors.**

Next meeting

The next meeting of the MVLC Church Council is at 6:30 p.m. on Tuesday 08 October 2019 in the Library. Emily Thompson leads devotions.

Adjournment

Pastor Briana Merkle "prayed us out."

Respectfully submitted,

Troy Kehm-Goins

Recording Secretary