

Mt. View Lutheran Church Council

November 15, 2022

Church Library

6:30-8:20 pm

## MINUTES

### Attendance

**Present:** Pastor Eric, Pastor Bri, Kevin Dahl, Karen Hansen, Skip Harrison, Carol Powers, Ken Swanson, Bob Yost, Jason Cornell - Treasurer

**Zoom:** Fred Albert, Jenny Grayum

**Absent:** Joel DeWitt, Gretchen Johnsrud, Dan Lysne, Emily Thompson

### Call to Order

Kevin Dahl called meeting to order at 6:30 pm.

### Devotion

Skip Harrison shared a story about a Chinese man who practiced in faith alone in his basement and learned how to pray, sing and worship.

## APPROVAL OF MINUTES

**It was M/S/P to accept the minutes of the Tuesday, October 18, 2022 meeting of the MVLC Council.**

## SUBMITTED WRITTEN REPORTS

**It was M/S/P to accept the written reports for the Tuesday November 15, 2022 Council Meeting that were submitted for its agenda by the following individuals and ministry groups:**

**Treasurer's Report - submitted by Jason Cornell**

An in-person update was given on the current financial status of the

congregation.

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Jason provided a recap of the October financial results and balances in our various general and unrestricted accounts. Giving lags the spending guideline projection by \$80,804. Our Living Hope Campaign balance is \$134,626 at the time of the meeting. A discussion was held about our spending guideline versus actual expenses and who is responsible for ensuring we stay within the guideline. This has typically been the responsibility of the Administrator and will return to that position once it is filled. It was suggested that we provide quarterly reports to our functional committees in order to keep them current on spending. MEF grants are in process.

Jason will not provide additional reports which Battershell & Nichols already have prepared online for the future, unless needed.

A discussion was held regarding the Sunday presentation by Jason and Kevin with regards to "Faith Requires Commitment and Commitment Requires Faith" as part of stirring our Congregation who vote to approve the Spending Guideline to be introspective about their financial commitment to MVLC.

### **President's Report - Kevin Dahl**

Electrical issues at the MVCC became apparent during the November 3 Seeds of Change meal. Approximately \$1,000 was needed for repairs and additional repairs will be necessary. A discussion around this incident and the need to review options for those repairs. The Council believes that the MVCC should not be considered a commercial kitchen when reviewing those options. Is there a transfer switch upstairs?

The MVLC Council holiday gathering will be targeted for January 6 in the MVCC building. Fred and Skip volunteered to help plan the event along with Gretchen (?). **It was M/S/P to allow beer and wine at the event.**

- Discussion took place regarding the use of "Cottage Meetings" to be held in conjunction with getting input from the congregation for the purpose of eliciting input on the formation of a new Vision Statement for MVLC. The meetings would take

place beginning in January 2023 and conclude prior to Lent. Pastor Eric (Pastor Bri) would emcee each meeting and the same questions would be discussed at each event. We will have Council

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members (and others, if necessary) host the meetings and have at least one at Church. The following Council members agreed to host a meeting: Carol, Fred, Jenny, Kevin, Skip and Bob. We would like to have up to 8 meetings.

- The Pastors would like a more formal policy from MVLC Council regarding the placement of plaques on items that have been built for/donated to the Church. After discussion, the following motion was made:

**It was M/S/P that no plaques would be allowed any items built for or donated to MVLC after November 15, 2022.**

#### **Prayer Shawl Ministry - Jenny Graham**

On October 6, a group of 9 members gathered for brunch and to knit and crochet. Pastor Eric also joined the gathering.

#### **Worship and Music - Kevin Dahl**

Worship and Music met on September 26 to review plans for Advent and Christmas seasons and get ideas for additional imagery to be used. The Advent theme will be *From Generation to Generation* and the Choir will sing a cantata at both services on December 11. Haugen's Creation Setting will be used during Worship and Unfailing Light during Midweek services.

#### **Property - Fred Albert**

- Projects that were completed in September included parking lot striping and removal of the overgrown maple in the NW corner of the Chapel and replace it with a dwarf tree or bush
- John and Carolyn Dahle are assisting the MVCC staff with extending the irrigation system for Step 1 of the "Senior Garden".

Ongoing projects include working to repair the electrical service in the

MVCC, working on a plan to replace parking lot fixtures, pressure washing the MVCC building, and trimming back several trees and perimeter areas.

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#### **Peace and Justice - Fred Albert**

Creation of a monthly calendar with a "monthly emphasis" has just been completed and focuses on our benevolence partners.

- Setting up for Creating more manna bags during Advent

#### **Rock Ministry - Dan Lysne**

- On November 5, a youth retreat was held on site. Rock Ministry will be working on several projects during the next few months. A Christmas Play will be performed on December 18 at 10:00 am in the Sanctuary. Other youth not in the Christmas play will be on other projects such as Cookies and Cards for homebound members, tree decorating Seafarer Gift Box packing and a Starry Night Banner.

#### **Deacon Ministry - Ken Swanson**

Ken provided a verbal report that indicated a recent meeting of Deacons was held to talk about their experiences. Great sharing was provided by many of the new deacons.

#### **Pastor's Written Reports**

##### **Pastor Eric**

Pastor Eric continues his home visits and his goal is to meet with most every member

- 13 new members joined the congregation on October 30. Two of the 13 are youth who were joining to become confirmed members of the congregation.

The Season of Generosity has been going for two weeks now and seems to be going well with good spirit and response. Consecration Sunday was November 13. I have met with the Mission Focus team on Saturday, November 12 to continue the momentum of discerning congregational mission.

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Pastor Eric asked for input on Commitment Sunday. Many positive comments were made, including the real stories shared from the pulpit by congregation members and the hopefulness being experienced by the return of many members that have not worshipped for a while. The Giving Tree was also a hit.

#### **Pastor Bri**

- Youth will be helping with the stewardship breakfast and will host the lunch at the Congregation meeting on November 20. Pope is working on summer plans for mission trip for the high school youth.

Wednesday evening worship has focused on spiritual practices rather than a sermon. Pastor Bri asked the Council if they wanted to share any comments. Some shared that it was different but was interesting and helpful. Others shared that some revisions might be helpful in the future.

Advent services may have some other type of spiritual engagement.

- Seafarers - I am working with **Ed** Egan to help facilitate the Seafarers Christmas boxes.
- Thanksgiving Eve service will not have lay homilists as in the past, but a brief testimony from member in a "show and tell" of thankfulness

**Members were reminded of the Congregation Meeting on November 20.**

**Closing Prayer:** Kevin Dahl on behalf of Gretchen Johnsrud

**Next Meeting:** December 13, 2022

**Respectfully Submitted**

**Bob Yost, on behalf of Gretchen Johnsrud, Secretary**