

Mountain View Lutheran Church • Church Council Meeting
Tuesday, December 15, 2020 • 6:30 p.m.
Online meeting (via Zoom)

Minutes

Attendance

Present: Sonja Dahl, Bob Linden, Dan Neptun, Gerry Philipsen, Mary Beth Peterson, Carol Powers, Wendy Wadnizak, Karin Weberg.

Absent: Emily Thompson.

Guests: Jason Cornell.

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

Call to order

President Carol Powers called the meeting to order.

Devotions

Mary Beth Peterson led devotions based upon the notion of Advent light, including the song “Drive Out the Darkness” by The Porter’s Gate Worship Project; an Advent devotion by her daughter, Rev. Kelsey Peterson Beebe; and Isaiah 9:2, 2 Corinthians 4:6, 1 Peter 2:9, and Matthew 5:3-9.

Financial update

MVLC Treasurer Jason Cornell spoke regarding the following:

- As of December 5, 2020, we have transferred the entirety of the Paycheck Protection Program (PPP) funds from ELCA Federal Credit Union to our main bank account. We now have up to 24 weeks to request loan forgiveness, which we plan to do in late-January/early-February 2021.
- The building loan was re-amortized on December 15, 2020. This means our new monthly mortgage payment will be \$9191.00, a decrease of \$1,775 per month.
- The 2021 Spending Guideline has been reviewed by the MVLC Church Council and awaits approval at the Congregational Meeting on Sunday, January 24, 2021.

- 2021 pledges and commitments, which are at about half of what they were for 2020.
- Our current cash position.

Benevolences

After discussion, **it was M/S/P to send 50% of the planned fourth quarter benevolences to our various benevolence recipients and ministry partners.**

Seminary Fund

It was M/S/P to spend \$625 from the Centennial Seminary Scholarship Fund for Hannah Johnsrud's application fee candidacy toward ordination.

ALIVE (Transition) Team update

Karin Weberg of the ALIVE Team spoke regarding the following:

- The ALIVE Team is providing updates of its work via special editions of the MVLC E-news.
- The ALIVE Team will meet with high school youth via a Zoom meeting on Sunday, December 20, 2020.
- Pastor Kim contacted fifty households of the congregation that had yet to participate in an ALIVE conversation and/or the ALIVE survey.

Call Committee

Kevin Dahl has agreed to chair the Call Committee for the next Senior Pastor. Bob Linden and Wendy Wadnizak will make phone calls to potential members of the Committee.

Pastor's report—Pastor Briana Merkle

Pastor Briana Merkle spoke regarding the following:

- Many Zoom/online meetings of various Rock Ministry groups. (The middle school youth are thriving online, with participation better than in person.)
- An upcoming meeting with high school parents to discuss participation of youth.
- Dreaming/visioning for “camp style” outdoor worship in the spring.
- Looking toward summer, with some sort of retreat for youth.
- Preaching on Christmas Eve for the first time ever.

Pastor's report—Pastor Kim Latterell

Pastor Kim Latterell spoke regarding the following:

- The upcoming adult education class, “The Forgotten Luther” taught by Pastor Paul Wee.
- Deacons to restart being commissioned during worship services on Baptism of Our Lord, Sunday, January 10, 2021.
- A one-page summary letter from the ALIVE Team to be included in the mailing to the congregation regarding the 1/24 Congregational Meeting.

Pastor's report—Pastor Mike Greenwalt

Pastor Mike Greenwalt spoke regarding the following:

- A challenge to the members of the Council: reflect on expanding the “flavor” of communication.
- Questions to consider before the new Senior Pastor arrives: *What do you want to see changed? What am I willing to do to affect that change?*
- Our videographer, David Burch, has been troubleshooting the cameras after recent AV work.
- Working with Julie Williams on position descriptions for the various MVLC staff members.
- Developing a stewardship theme/focus with the Stewardship Ministry Group during 2021.
- Working on COVID and post-COVID “time and talent” sheets for the members of the congregation to fill out.
- The need to establish a team for reviewing the congregation's constitution.

President Carol Powers “prayed us out.”

Next meeting

The next meeting of the MVLC Church Council is at 6:30 p.m. on Tuesday, January 5, 2021. Carol Powers leads devotions.

Respectfully submitted,

Troy Kehm-Goins
Recording Secretary