

MOUNTAIN VIEW LUTHERAN CHURCH
Church Council Meeting
December 17, 2024; 6:30 pm; Church Library

Minutes

ATTENDANCE

Present: Fred Albert, Monica Baker, Jason Cornell (Treasurer), Kevin Dahl, Mary Beth Dahl, Karen Hansen, Skip Harrison, Megan Hutton, Becky Schaefer, Ken Swanson, Bob Yost

Zoom: None

Absent: Thomas Careaga, John Meagher

Staff: Pastor Eric Bostrom

CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order by Council President Megan Hutton in the MVLC Library at 6:30 pm.

OPENING PRAYER

Monica Baker led the Council in devotions by reading a poem by Henri J. M. Nouwen related to the season of Advent.

MINUTES

The minutes of the November 19, 2024 meeting were reviewed.

Motion: Approve the minutes as posted.

Made By: Bob Yost

Second: Kevin Dahl

Action: Passed

WRITTEN REPORTS

The written reports were reviewed.

Motion: Approve the reports as posted.

Made By: Fred Albert

Second: Ken Swanson

Action: Passed

PASTOR'S REPORT

Pastor Eric

Councilmembers reviewed the report submitted by Pastor Eric while he updated Council on a variety of items. He reported that Deacon Traci Vatne will be working approximately 15 hours per week to help with Rock Ministry, Monthly Stepping Stone Retreats, Youth Events, VBS, and

Pastor Eric's Report (Continued)

worship leadership and preaching. Pastor Eric also reported that about \$2,000 was raised at the Thanksgiving Eve Worship and Dinner event. Proceeds from this event were sent to the Lutheran Disaster Relief, specifically for the hurricanes in the Southeast United States. Pastor Eric's report is attached to the minutes.

TREASURER'S REPORT

Treasurer Jason Cornell presented a financial update for the month of November. He reported that giving was down significantly from the target; collected \$58,070 vs a target of \$77,393 (about \$19,000 less than expected). No large gifts were collected in November.

Net operating revenue (income less expenses) was down \$5,207.14 for November. Property expenses were \$4,160 higher than planned and personnel expenses were \$11,662 lower than planned for the month.

There was general Council consent to approve medical expenses as submitted by Custodian Yelena Zhurko.

Year-end performance bonuses need to be finalized at the December Council meeting to ensure they are paid in 2024.

ACTION ITEMS

Letter of Agreement for Interim Ministry

Council members reviewed the Letter of Agreement for Interim Ministry for Deacon Traci Vatne.

Motion: Approve the Letter of Agreement for Interim Ministry for Deacon Traci Vatne affective January 14, 2025 through August 14, 2025 or until a settled pastor is called (whichever is first).

Made By: Bob Yost

Second: Fred Albert

Action: Passed

Lease Agreement for the Food Bank

Council members reviewed the terms of the Lease Agreement for the Edgewood Community NOURISH Food Bank.

Motion: Approve the Lease Agreement for Edgewood Community NOURISH Food Bank

Made By: Kevin Dahl

Second: Bob Yost

Action: Passed

MEF Funding Approval

Council members reviewed the report given by Beth Ann Johnson on the work of the MEF Committee and their recommended list of funding recipients.

Motion: Approve \$25,000 in MEF grants for 16 recipients as identified by Beth Ann Johnson in her report given to Council on November 19, 2024.

Made By: Mary Beth Dahl

Second: Kevin Dahl

Action: Passed

Pastor's Discipleship Fund

Council members reviewed a request for a Pastor's Discipleship Fund to provide seed money for emergency needs as expressed by members of the Church and the greater community. Pastor Eric asked that requests be filtered or vetted by members of the Council and the Congregation.

Motion: Establish a Pastor's Discipleship Fund of \$2,500 with seed money from the Memorial fund with a cap of \$250 per occurrence.

Made By: Bob Yost

Second: Fred Albert

Action: Passed

DISCUSSION ITEMS

Council Social Event

Council discussed the possibility of a social event to be held within the next couple months. The date was tentatively set for Wednesday, February 5 with Skip Harrison chairing the event. More information to be announced at the next council meeting.

COUNCIL REPORTS

Council members reported on the following committees/activities:

- Property Committee: Fred Albert's report from the Property Committee is attached to the minutes.

INFORMATIONAL/OPERATIONAL ITEMS

Year-End Performance Bonuses

President Megan excused Pastor Eric and Council members discussed end-of-year gifts for staff. Bob Yost presented a proposal developed by Council members of the Executive Team.

Motion: Provide year-end staff bonuses as presented by the Executive Team.

Made By: Bob Yost

Second: Ken Swanson

Action: Passed

Year-End Performance Bonuses (Continued)

Bonus checks will be presented to staff members by President Megan.

Future Agenda Items

Future Agenda Items Include:

- Leases for the Mountain View Community Center
- Capital Planning
- Quotes/Bids for piano repair and the lawn sprinkler system
- Council Election

NEXT MEETING

The next Council meeting will be held on Tuesday, January 21, 2025.

- Devotions: Megan Hutton
- Closing Prayer: Karen Hansen

CLOSING PRAYER

Closing prayer was led by Skip Harrison.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 8 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Secretary Karen Hansen

PASTOR'S REPORT

Pastor Eric

Pastor Eric's Report for the December 2024 Council Meeting:

- Mt View hosted the pastors and deacons of the Mt Rainer Conference on Nov 21.
- We've sent targeted emails to all of our recurring online givers, asking them to stop their online giving through Shelby and set up online giving through Tithe.ly. Thank you to the Council members who have already made this switch.
- We have had a large number of regular visitors that Wendy is keeping track of. In December I am sending them all a letter in the mail inviting them to Christmas Eve worship and inviting them to our new member class in the Spring. The new member process in 2025 will begin with Pastor Eric scheduling one-on-one visits with prospective new members. Two new member classes during Sunday Adult Ed in March. Finally, new members will join the congregation at the Easter Vigil service on April 19.
- Deacon Traci Vatne has agreed to serve as our part-time interim beginning Jan 14 and going through the end of summer. She will work 15 hours per week and help with Rock Ministry, Youth Events, Stepping Stone of Faith Retreats, VBS, and worship leadership and preaching.
- The new leases for the food bank and MVCC are moving forward but at slightly different timelines. The food bank lease is ready for Council approval. The MVCC lease is likely delayed one month because Jesie Holden and her lease team have had a slow response for the attorney who is representing them.
- Also lease related, we discovered that MVLC did not have property insurance previously for the Center because MVCC was paying for the property insurance. MVLC will add property insurance on the Center beginning Jan 1, 2025.
- Thanksgiving Eve, At the Table, was a new idea, but I feel it was a success. We had 120 in attendance and I've received much positive feedback. Thanks to the team that planned this new event: Amy Boers, Gretchen Johnsrud, and Carianne Kehm-Goins. Gretchen says they learned a lot about the set up and clean up so that with strong teams next year, this event will be easier to do.
- Church in the Round in November. I was surprised with the overwhelming positive feedback from many different folks who liked church in the round. I personally liked it, too. So, the staff is beginning to plan when we will worship in the round, again, in 2025.
- MVCC and MVLC shared activities together. Jesie Holden and I are beginning to talk about a bigger Backpack distribution event here on campus, and our church joining their Holiday Hope Angel Tree program for kids in Fife. Stay tuned...
- I sure hope the Council does some fun and fellowship together in January. You are all great people, but we've only had meetings together. I request that we have a social event together for community building.

COUNCIL REPORTS

Council Member Reports for the December 2024 Council Meeting:

Fred Albert reported on the December 3, 2024 meeting of the Property Committee. In attendance were Fred Albert, Carolyn Dahle, John Dahle, Kelvin Machumu, and Henry Peck.

The committee discussed the following items:

The two sprinkler heads that failed in last year's freeze are being replaced with better sprinkler heads. The heads that failed were due to metal fatigue not freezing water in the line. Scheduled to be replaced this month.

The committee started to review the running project list that Henry has been keeping. The committee determined there are three categories for the campus projects.

Preventive, Repair and Safety.

It was a unanimous decision to recommend to the council to approve these following projects for 2025:

Repair:

- Replacement of the window frames on the south side of the chapel and include the replacement of the fascia and gutter ends on the west side of the sanctuary. The thought is to combine both repairs into one bid. Henry is reaching out for three bids.

Preventative:

- Painting the chapel. The last time it was painted the prep work was substandard resulting in the paint chipping and blistering around the building. This to address the rot and checking that has already occurred – primarily on the south side of the building. Henry is gathering bids.
- Hiring a company to treat the chapel, MCCC and MVLC sanctuary roofs for moss and provide an estimate as to the condition of these roofs so we can prioritize and schedule replacement in future years (2026, 2027, etc.)

Safety:

- Install a handrail at the back of the altar in the sanctuary

The committee will continue to review and refine the major projects list. Henry will create a property folder on Google drive for the committee to work from, with the council having read rights to that folder.

Future discussions:

What to do with the property north of the sanctuary

Parking light fixtures (in progress)