
2017 December VA Meeting Minutes

UNAPPROVED

Call to order

A meeting of **MOLC Vision Assembly** was held at **Mount Olive Lutheran Church** on **3 December 2017** and called to order at **11:50 AM** by President **Scott Passe**. MMC Attendees included **Pastor Jon Haakana, Scott Passe, Harold Matson, Len Ackerman, Karen Meinert, Dave Berndt, Kara Briese, Heidi Dupont, and Terri Jantunen**. Members not in attendance included **Jim Dahl**. Pastor Jon led in an Opening Prayer.

Agenda

Paulette Lenz made a motion to approve the agenda. Linda Matson seconded. Motion confirmed.

Approval of minutes

Bob Antoine noted that Harry Bradley was referenced incorrectly. Linda Matson noted that their previous church was incorrectly referenced. Jeff Schultz made a motion to approve the amended minutes. Bruce Degen seconded. The June 2017 minutes were approved, as corrected. Motion ratified.

Reports

PASTOR'S REPORT:

- I. Recap June 2017:** In June, we discussed the financial challenges of MOLC and some significant staff changes resulting in the semi-retirement of Pastor Randy and Ms. Linda Stroming. Thank you for your prayers and concerns regarding our finances. Regarding an increased offering, thank you to the many who have responded. MOLC is working to increase the income, watch spending, and pay back monies borrowed from the Dedicated Funds. We are re-committing to the tithe which we encourage all of you to do or to work toward meeting.
- II. Spending:** Staff is adjusting to a new normal in which a maximum spending goal of \$500 per month per staff member. Adjustments are made to not exceed this goal.
- III. Outward Focus:** Continuous emphasis among staff and church leadership that most guests and new members visit as a result of an invitation from a member. Therefore, our

church needs to be viewed as a “launching pad” sending members on local mission trips – family, schools, work, neighborhoods. With the Christmas season upon us, this is a great opportunity to bring guests.

IV. Christmas Weekend: Since Christmas Eve falls on a Sunday (the fourth Sunday of Advent), morning worship services at 8:00 and 10:30 AM will focus on Advent Worship and then, afternoon and evening services at 4:00 and 7:00 PM will focus on Christmas Eve Worship. Christmas Day worship service at 9:00 AM.

V. Ministry Goals: In early August, staff met to begin an ongoing process on ministry goals for 2017-2018. From that meeting, one of the action plans was to introduce monthly Family Meetings. These meetings will keep the congregation abreast of financial status, goals, and plans.

VI. Stewardship Team: A Stewardship Team was formed to educate, encourage, and equip members to be faithful and generous givers – time, talent, and treasure. Beginning in January 2018, Crown Financial studies – including newer and updated courses – will launch. Two courses that will be shared at the beginning are: *Money Life Personal Finance Study* (Bible class) and *Managing Our Finances God’s Way* (Home Groups). Watch bulletins and newsletters for additional information.

DBAO REPORT:

I. Finance:

A. TOTAL INCOME / EXPENSES YTD

- i. Income: \$490,023.89
 - a) Giving Units: increased from 245 to 267 (July to November)
 - b) Average Weekly Donation: increased \$10 (July to November)
- ii. Expense: \$395,243.80
- iii. Net Profit: \$ 94,780.09 (80%)

B. NET INCOME AND STATUS OF DEBT REDUCTION

- i. Dedicated Funds repayment: \$ 63,476.88
- ii. Difference Balance: \$ 31,303.12
- iii. Mortgage: \$ 225,000
 - a) Total Capital Campaign 2016-17 income = 188,952
 - b) $225,000 - 188,952 = 36,048$
 - c) $36,048 - 31,303.12 = - 4744.88$ General fund paying mortgage
- iv. We have more money in General account but have anticipated needs coming Dec.

- a) We have two large bills coming out in December
 - b) We are preparing to switch banks
 - c) Three events planned one year in advance or unforeseen
- C. HOW WE ARRIVED AT OUR CURRENT SITUATION
- i. Worship Attendance: dropped an average of 50 people in past 2-years
 - ii. dropped 90 in past 8 years
 - iii. 2016-2017 Capital Appeal: committed funds not yet received — \$ 36,000
- D. WHERE TO IMPROVE AND REACH GOALS
- i. Giving Units: Increase another 200
 - ii. Capital Campaign: Meet or Exceed Goal (\$225,000)
 - iii. Offering Options:
 - a) Offering Plate
 - b) Simply Giving
 - c) Vanco Give+
- E. ADDITIONAL THOUGHTS:
- i. Building Fund doesn't contain enough \$\$\$ to pay mortgage, thus \$\$\$ from General Fund.
 - ii. General Fund and Capital Appeal are kept separate due to management methods

Nominations for 2018 District Convention

1. Mount Olive Lutheran Church
 1. Pastoral Delegate: Pastor Jon Haakana
 2. Lay Delegate: Bruce Degen
 3. Alternative Lay Delegate: Steve Johnson
 4. Judy Fedo made a motion to approve the nominations. Marcy Weight seconded. Motion ratified.
2. Minnesota South District Convention Officers
 1. District President: Rev. Mark Tewes, Chanhassen
 2. Regional Vice President: Rev. Tom Evans, Inver Grove Heights
 3. Board of Directors – Ordained: Rev. Dr. Bob Gehrke, White Bear Lake
 4. Board of Directors – Lay: Mr. Daniel Thao and Ms. Christina Snow
 5. Board of Directors – Commissioned: Ms. Brenda Lovhang (T) and Ms. Faith Rattei (DCO)

6. Michael Fedo made a motion to approve the recommended officers. Linda Matson seconded. Motion confirmed.

Elections

I. MMC President: President Scott asked for nominations from the floor. None were offered and Vice President Harold distributed ballots. The congregation voted and elected Tony Walsh.

II. MMC Treasurer: President Scott asked for nominations from the floor. None were offered. President Scott called for a verbal vote. The congregation voted and elected Len Ackermann.

III. MMC Member-at-Large: President Scott asked for nominations from the floor. None were offered. President Scott called for a verbal vote. The congregation voted and elected Robert Polster.

Announcements

Next Meeting will be determined in January 2018.

Adjournment

Jerusha Davis made a motion to adjourn the meeting; Dave Dawson seconded. Motion carried. The meeting closed with the Lord's Prayer at 12:37 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Karen Meinert

MMC Secretary

12 December 2017