

**New Hanover Evangelical Lutheran Church**  
**Congregational Council Meeting Minutes**  
**June 15, 2023**  
**7:00 pm**

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1. Call to Order at 7:02 p.m.

2. Attendance: (\* = excused absence; ° = late arrival)

Becker, Edward *	Mutter, Vicki	Wise, Jeff
Eisenhart, Steven	Repa, Barbara *	White, Nancy
Geiser, Scott	Rothermel, Todd	
Gross, James	Staub, Pastor Scott	

3. Devotions

a. Pastor Scott opened the meeting with prayer.

4. Approval of Minutes from the May Regular Council Meeting

The minutes were approved: Pastor Scott motioned; Jeff Wise seconded; Steve Eisenhart and Todd Rothermel abstained.

5. Committee Reports: (\* = report on file; ° = no meeting/no report; + = no report submitted)

a. Audit +	h. Fellowship +	o. Mutual Ministry +
b. Building Fund +	i. Finance +	p. NYG +
c. Cemetery +	j. Flutter +	q. Personnel +
d. Christian Ed +	k. Garden of Hope +	r. Property +
e. Constitution +	l. History & Archives +	s. Stewardship +
f. Endowment +	m. Memorial Fund +	t. Swamp Picnic +
g. Evangelism +	n. Mission Svc/Social Min. +	u. Worship & Music +

6. Staff Reports

a. Pastor noted that Patricia has special music planned for each week this summer.  
b. He also noted that Nikki is preparing for VBS next week.  
c. Jim asked if the JAM classes will be joint or individual in the fall? Answer: this is still being worked out.

The staff reports were unanimously approved: Todd Rothermel motioned; Jim Gross seconded.

7. Treasurer's Report

a. Scott gave a very brief overview in Ed's absence, noting a large donation of \$20,000 designated to be split between the Garden of Hope and the General Fund.

The Treasurer's report was unanimously approved for audit: Pastor Scott Staub motioned; Nancy White seconded.

8. Unfinished Business and Prior Meeting Action Items

a. Council Minutes and Reports

- Steve noted that Sally has completed the printing of all years except 2018, which she cannot locate.

b. AVEL Project

- Steve noted that the project is complete with the exception of some wire clean-up work in the basement.

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- c. New Insurance Provider
  - Jim reported that the Property Committee will be meeting with a new insurance agent soon.
  - He will also invite the council when a date has been selected.
- d. Worship Nursery
  - Pastor shared that the books will be donated to some local senior living facilities.
- e. Discretionary Fund Policy
  - Todd will send out the policy with a recommendation to approve it in July.
- f. Pre School
  - Pastor noted that the committee is preparing a business plan which will be presented to the council and then to the township.
- g. Personnel Committee Revitalization
  - Todd questioned who on the staff is an “employee” and who is an “independent contractor”? Answer: Jennifer Boyer is an independent contractor; all others are employees.
  - Todd noted that he has begun “talking” to the staff to make them aware of the revitalized committee and determine any needs and/or concerns they may have.
- h. Constitution Update
  - Nancy and Harry White reported that the constitution document emailed to the council in advance of this meeting includes the required *ELCA Model 2022 Constitution* items.

The constitution was unanimously approved: Nancy White motioned; Todd Rothermel seconded.
- i. Audit Update
  - Steve noted that Don Wirt will be meeting with the CPA next Tuesday, June 10 after which the General Fund 2022 Audit will begin
- j. Picnic Grove Audit
  - Steve shared that Don Wirt has offered to complete this if the council had no objections. There were none.
- k. Pictorial Directory
  - Nancy reported that work on this will begin in the fall.
- l. Thank You Letters
  - Scott reported that this has been completed and Susan will be mailing them out.
- m. By Laws/Continuing Resolutions
  - Scott requested that the council review the by-laws soon so that they can be approved by the congregation at the same time as the constitution.
  - Nancy will email the by-laws, noting that they are still being worked out by the Constitution Committee.
- n. Food Ministry Space Usage
  - Todd questioned how the space usage charge will benefit the Food Ministry Board. Answer: this has not yet been worked out.
- o. Food Ministry & Archives Storage Switch
  - Jim reported that his has begun – the Volunteer’s Office has been cleaned out and the archival items are slowly being moved to their new location.
- p. Endowment Plaque
  - Jeff reported that the names on the plaque will be determined by the Endowment Fund

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Committee, with estates, trusts and sizeable donations accounting for most of what is given. Most of the council was in favor.

9. New Business
  - a. Approval of the free literature made available in the building was discussed. It was determined that all literature must go through a council screening process and be approved before it can be made available. Once approved, the office staff will place it in the appropriate location.
  - b. Pastor noted that we may want to consider a more secure mail box, as there have been reports of checks being stolen from mailboxes in the area. The Property Committee will look into our options.
  - c. Pastor shared that Richie Musser will be meeting with Susan about sending thank you letters to those who have made donations to the capital campaign.
10. Correspondence
  - a. The *Living Lutheran* magazine will no longer be printed after the November/December 2023 issue.
11. Upcoming Events
  - a. Kids Camp – Monday, June 19 – Friday, June 23
12. Next Council Meeting: Thursday, July 20, 2023 at 7:00 pm
13. The meeting adjourned at 8:24 p.m.  
Adjournment was unanimously approved: Jeff Wise motioned; Nancy White seconded.
14. The meeting closed with the Lord's Prayer.