

**New Hanover Evangelical Lutheran Church**  
**Congregational Council Meeting Minutes**  
**October 19, 2023**  
**7:00 pm**

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1. Call to Order at 7:03 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 – Pastor Scott opened the meeting with feelings on the war between Israel and Hamas and a prayer.
4. Approval of Minutes from the September Regular Council Meeting
  - a. Item 6a – should read “Nancy White motioned”  
The minutes were unanimously approved: Todd Rothermel motioned; Jim Goss seconded.
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. Committee Action Items
  - a. Approval of Endowment Fund Committee Job Description.  
The job description was unanimously approved: Scott Geiser motioned; Todd Rothermel seconded.
7. Staff Reports
  - a. Chris Fatzinger will be on medical leave until November 17.
  - b. 6 students are in the Catechism program at NHELCL.
  - c. Fellowship Hour will follow the 9 a.m. service weekly.
  - d. Two new families for have been attending; Nikki is shepherding them.
  - e. The children’s choir will sing on the same Sunday of each month.The staff reports were unanimously approved: Barbara Repa motioned; Pastor Scott Staub seconded.
8. Treasurer’s Report
  - a. Ed reported that the total deficit as of September 31 was \$90,436.
  - b. He also noted that income at the end of September (75% of the year) was at 70% and expenses were at 76%. The income is behind due to no disbursement from the Endowment Fund.The treasurer’s report was unanimously approved for audit: Vicki Mutter motioned; Scott Geiser

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seconded.

9. Unfinished Business and Prior meeting Action Items
  - a. 2018 Council Minutes and Reports
    - Susan Gutshall provided what minutes she could.
  - b. AVEL Project – on going
    - Amy’s Client Service Agreement is complete.
    - Steve will sign and return it to her.
    - Todd noted that several folks have signed up to be trained on the new system.
  - c. Worship Nursery
    - Pastor noted that it is complete and looks awesome!!
  - d. Pre School
    - Donna Kehs reported that the zoning variance has been submitted to the township, and
    - The business plan meeting went well and the plan will be formatted.
  - e. Audit Update
    - Steve reported that Don Wirt expects that the 2022 audit will be completed soon and that it should be included in the 2023 annual report.
    - Steve also reported that the 2023 audit will be conducted by Cappelletti and Pinter.
  - f. Pictorial Directory
    - Nancy provided an update of her progress: she is in the process of contacting companies to photograph members.
    - She and her committee will also be updating the membership information.
  - g. Mailbox Security
    - Jim has found a lockable mailbox which the Property Committee will install.
  - h. Food Ministry Board Finances
    - Todd reported that a \$70,000 grant application has been submitted and that we were not chosen for the ELCA grant.
    - He also noted that the fund will run out of money in November. Money will be borrowed from the Garden of Hope fund and be paid back once the fund is fluid again.
10. New Business
  - a. Agenda items and committee reports due (Steve)
  - b. Pastor’s Hour Adjustment
    - Steve shared that the Executive Committee members heard a proposal by Pastor Scott to lessen his hours as he will be of retirement age in late October.
    - He has requested (5) weeks of unpaid time off saving the church several thousand dollars in 2024.
    - After some discussion, it was decided that another meeting of the Executive Committee and the Pastor should occur to determine how his duties would be covered in his absence.
  - c. Repair of the Swamp Pike sign was questioned. Answer = Property is waiting for the replacement part to arrive.
  - d. It was noted that folks are needed for the 2024 Council.

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11. Upcoming Events
  - a. Roast Beef Dinner: Saturday, November 11; 4 – 7 p.m.
  
12. Council Highlights (from this meeting)
  - a. New Worship Nursery is open.
  
13. Next Council Meeting: Thursday, November 16, 2023 at 7:00 pm
  
14. The council meeting adjourned at 9:13 p.m.  
Adjournment was unanimously approved: Nancy White motioned; Todd Rothermel seconded.
  
15. The meeting closed with the Lord's Prayer.