

New Hanover Evangelical Lutheran Church
Congregational Council Meeting Minutes
June 18, 2026
6:30 pm

1. The meeting was called to order at 6:37 pm.

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

Becker, Edward	Hauser, D. Martin	Rothermel, Todd
Becker, Monique	Mack, James	Singley, Dee *
Eisenhart, Steve	Peto, Yvonne *	Andy Van Dyke
		Nikki Young

3. Devotions

a. Nikki opened the meeting with a prayer.

4. Approval of the minutes of the May 21, 2026 Council Meeting

The minutes were unanimously approved: Monique Becker motioned; Marty Hauser seconded.

5. Staff Reports

a. Nikki's vacation (beginning Saturday) was noted.

The staff reports were unanimously approved: Ed Becker motioned; Marty Hauser seconded.

6. Treasurer's Report

a. Ed reported that the total deficit 2026 YTD as of May 30 is \$31,600.

b. Ed noted that total income at the end of May (41.7% of the year), the income was at 35.4% and expenses were at 33.9 %.

The Treasurer's Report was unanimously approved for audit; Ed Becker motioned; Jim Mack seconded.

c. Ed shared that the finance committee is working to expand the Balance Sheet to show all of the congregation's accounts, not just the General Fund. Andy provided a review of the new Balance Sheet; some discussion occurred and all were in agreement that this information is good to have.

7. Unfinished Business and Prior Ongoing Action Items

a. Tabled:

1. Additional Sound System Training (Steve) – Steve to consult with Bill Fitch

2. Unconventional Building Usage Requests – on going (Steve)

b. Ongoing Action Items:

1. Worship and Christian Education Board

a. No report

2. Property

a. Report attached

b. Sanctuary A/C project – Steve reported that the sanctuary is complete with the exception of the thermostat, which Yeakle will replace the next time they are on site. The work in the Sunday School hallway has begun; he does not have a start date for the Fellowship Hall.

c. Ad Hoc Building Use Committee – Todd asked if this could be dissolved? Answer = wait and see how things progress with shared space between NA, the school and the

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church.

d. Organ Refurbishment Project – on going

3. Community Outreach Board

- a. Call Committee – Monique reported that they have a second interview with a candidate on June 29, at which time they will know if they will move forward with the candidate.
- b. Food Ministry – Todd shared that Chris Fatzinger has announced his retirement effective November 26, 2026. The Board has already begun discussions on what this means to the ministry.

4. SLC Board

- a. Todd reported that the move from Grace is complete and there are currently 43 children enrolled for Summer Camp. He indicated that through conversations with Steph Houck, things are going well.

5. Executive Committee

- a. Andy reported that Barbara Atkins reviewed the 2024 financial documents, and that there were a few items that need to be corrected and/or improved going forward. He noted that we may consider an every-other-year schedule for this review and that some new policies that need to be implemented. Andy made a motion to approve the report from Barbara Atkins and adopt the action items to document the necessary policies.

The motion passed unanimously; Monique Becker seconded

- b. Office Equipment/Technology – Andy reported that we can use our existing Microsoft 365 subscription to facilitate Teams meetings for multiple users.

6. New Business

- a. Todd made a motion to review Continuing Resolution C13.02.a.E26:

Subject: Allocation of Undesignated Bequests

- 1. **Purpose:** This resolution establishes the customary allocation for undesignated bequests to the congregation, ensuring a balance between long-term financial health, current operating needs, and external benevolence.
- 2. **Customary Allocation:** Unless otherwise directed by the donor in writing, all undesignated bequests received by this congregation exceeding \$5,000 shall be allocated as follows:
 - Endowment Fund: 50%
 - General Fund: 50% total, with 10% of the total bequest amount designated as an outward benevolence expense to be distributed from the General Fund to agencies outside the congregation.
- 3. **Accounting and Distribution:** Bequests shall be deposited into the Undesignated Gifts Fund into a bank or investment account as directed by the Finance Committee; 50% of which will be transferred to the Endowment Fund and 50% to the General Fund. The 10% outward benevolence portion shall be recorded as an expense of the General Fund and distributed by the Council per recommendations by the Mission Service committee in a timely manner.
- 4. **Threshold and Small Bequests:** Undesignated bequests of \$5,000 or less shall be directed to the General Fund, unless the Congregation Council determines otherwise in a specific instance.

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- 5. Council Discretion:** This allocation serves as a guideline for the stewardship of congregational assets. The Congregation Council retains the authority to adjust these percentages or redirect funds based on specific congregational needs, emergency financial circumstances, or mission priorities. Any deviation from these customary percentages shall be approved by a majority vote of the Council and recorded in the official meeting minutes.

The motion passed unanimously; Ed Becker seconded

- b. Nikki motioned that the following individuals be accepted into membership:

- Lenore Gates

The motion was approved unanimously; Marty Hauser seconded.

- c. Steve asked if Jennifer Boyer could be added to the staff email address. Answer = yes. Todd will take care of this.

7. Correspondence

- a. Steve asked if the Living Lutheran subscription should be reviewed. Answer = yes. Steve will have Susan do so.

8. Next Council Meeting: Thursday July 16, 2026 at 6:30 p.m.

9. The Council Meeting adjourned at 8:41 p.m.

The adjournment was unanimously approved; Marty Hauser motioned; Monique Becker seconded.

10. The meeting closed with the Lord's Prayer.