

Newington Baptist Church
Quarterly Business Meeting
Sunday, July 27, 2025

- I. Call to Order
 - a. James King, Moderator, called the meeting to order followed by a prayer by Pastor Chris Grella.
 - b. Sebrina Williams motioned to dispense with the reading of the minutes from the business meeting on Sunday, April 27, 2025. Motion seconded by Jerry Young. Motion carried.
- II. Nominating Committee motions:
 - a. The Nominating Committee nominated Juli Semanski to be the new Church Clerk beginning at the October 2025 business meeting. Membership voted unanimously to approve the nomination.
 - b. The Nominating Team nominated Beth Henderson to be the Assistant Treasurer and to authorize her as a signer on Newington Baptist Church checks. Membership voted unanimously to approve the nomination.
 - c. The Nominating Team nominated Sharon Shelton, Danny Kissinger, and Sharyl Stover to join the Stewardship Team. (Sharon Shelton will no longer be serving as Board Oversight for the Stewardship Team so that she can serve as a regular committee member). Motion passed without opposition.
- III. Financial Reports: Wanda German, Treasurer
 - a. Total 2025 income as of June 30, 2025: \$166,717.30. Total expenses as of June 30, 2025: \$187,224.72. This includes, however, a little more than \$12,000 we transferred to deferred maintenance.
 - b. Our expenses thus far this year are about 53% of our budget, which is a good place to be halfway through our year.
 - c. Carlton Hogge motioned to accept the financial report as presented. Seconded by Jerry Young. Motion carried.
- IV. Action Teams and Committees:
 - a. Board of Directors: Jerry German
 - i. The Board of directors made the following motion: Under Article 13, Financial Policies, Section 5 of Newington Baptist Church's Constitution & Bylaws, the Board recommends the following personnel be approved as authorized check signers, signers on the Night Depository Agreement, and designated individuals to pick up depository lock bags on behalf of NBC:
 - Wanda S. German – Treasurer

- Beth Henderson – Assistant Treasurer
- Carlton Hogge
- Jennifer Young

Carlton Hogge motioned to approve. Seconded by Jerry Young. Motion to approve updating the authorized signers for church banking activities passed without opposition.

- ii. Maintenance Projects: Doug Hull will provide an update on current buildings and ground efforts.
- iii. Tithe.ly transition: Buddy King will report on the administrative transfer of our Tithe.ly account.
- iv. Board nominations: Nominations are still being received to fill the upcoming vacancy created by Juli Semanski's rotation off the Board at the end of the year.
- v. All other operations remain stable and on track. Jerry German thanked everyone for their continued prayers and support.

b. Personnel: Buddy King

Need for a Tithe.ly Administrator:

- i. The church is in need of someone to fulfill the Tithe.ly Administrator responsibilities. Susan Hinson had been serving as the administrator for Tithe.ly, which is our church management system, and Susan is no longer a member of Newington Baptist Church.
- ii. The Personnel Committee nominates Heather King to fill the position as Tithe.ly administrator. This is a paid position. It will begin with a trial period of August 1, 2025 through December 31, 2025 and will pay her for 5 hours a week of work at her current hourly rate as the Children's Ministry Director. This will help us determine if 5 hours a week is enough to perform the Tithe.ly administrator role.
- iii. Buddy King listed the duties of the Tithe.ly Administrator
 - Check preschool payments and report to the preschool when online payments are made.
 - Oversee user access and permission requests.
 - Oversee the Breeze database.
 - Create giving trend reports.
 - Provide giving reports to membership for tax preparation.
 - Assign and maintain user role permissions.
 - Update Breeze and Tithe.ly as required.

- Monitor and administrate contact from Tithe.ly.
 - Oversee Quickbooks integration and work with the financial contractor to provide information and access to Tithe.ly systems.
- iv. The church needs one person to be the Tithe.ly administrator for security purposes.
- v. Stan Ward asked how the salary for this role was determined, and Buddy King answered that it was set in conjunction with Jerry German from the Board of Directors, Carlton Hogge from the Stewardship Team, the Personnel Committee, the pastor, and Heather King.
- vi. Motion to approve Heather King as Tithe.ly Administrator was seconded and passed without opposition.
- c. Properties: Doug Hull

2025 projects completed: Prepared the preschool hallway for the opening of the new kindergarten class (doors, locks, smoke detectors, etc.), awning over the new entrance door will go up this week, handicap ramp material for the clothes closet area is in and just needs to be installed, roofing repaired down the children's and clothes closet hallways, safety glass in the Welcome Center door was replaced, hot water heater and ice machine in the kitchen replaced, HVAC units inspected and prepared for summer.
- d. Youth Ministries: Brenda Armistead
 - i. Fuge camp was great. Three professions of faith and several rededications made.
 - ii. Youth Sunday is next Sunday.
 - iii. Community Youth Night on August 20th at St. Therese. They hope to make this an annual event to bring youth groups in the area together.
 - iv. Fundraising will begin for next year's camp with a chili cookoff this fall.
- e. Cemetery Team: Jerry Young

The Cemetery Team spent \$475 from Cemetery Designated Funds to pay White Mills Landscaping Co. to pull weeds and trim holly hedges and trees. They trimmed the azaleas free of charge. We also refunded \$1100 to a family for their previously purchased cemetery plots.
- f. WMU: Jerry Young
 - i. Jerry Young shared updates from the WMU this past year:
 - September 2025; sponsored a church-wide collection of packaged snacks to honor Gloucester County's Fire and Rescue Dept. and collected donations for Alma Hunt offering for VA missionaries.

- October 2024: Collected items to help fill Operation Christmas Child shoeboxes and attended the Packing Party.
 - November 2024: Helped collect OCC shoeboxes from other churches and individuals to be taken to the regional collection site in Poquoson.
 - December 2024: Sponsored the Lottie Moon donations for International Missions, Prayer Breakfast, and Parade of Flags. Next year, we will also make wreaths to honor all our veterans in the cemetery.
 - January 2025: Sponsored the Baby Bottle Campaign for the Peninsula Care Net Pregnancy Center and Pastor Chris dedicated them on Sanctity of Life Sunday.
 - February 2025: Sponsored “Soup Sunday” when the church members donated cans of soup to benefit the Salvation Army Soup Pantry for Seniors. Also attended the Mid-Tidewater/WMU meeting at Spring Hill Baptist Church in Cobbs Creek.
 - March 2025: Sponsored a church-wide collection of packaged snacks to honor Gloucester County Sheriff’s Department.
 - April 2025: Sponsored the Annie Armstrong Offering for North American Missions and delivered flowers to our extension members, Anne Brooks and Nan Higgins.
 - May 2025: Sponsored “Sock It To Me Sunday” when the congregation was asked to donate men’s black socks, which were given to Diane Garrison to be taken to the Healing Eagle Clinic on the Upper Mattaponi Indian Reservation.
 - June 2025: Helped with VBS and sent \$100 to Marisa Sanchez, the missionary on the Eastern Shore who ministers to the migrants who come to pick vegetables for the canning companies.
 - July and August 2025: In the process of sponsoring “Stuck on Jesus” and collecting donations of glue sticks for the Gloucester County elementary schools. Dedication will be August 10th. Also sent \$50 to Petsworth Elementary School to help pay for lunches when any student forgets their lunch money.
- ii. The only money the WMU uses out of its church budget is to pay the Mid-Tidewater/WMUY dues. The WMU members donate each month to their treasury, which is used for everything else.

- iii. The WMU invites all the ladies of Newington to join them. They meet at the church on the 3rd Monday of each month at 10 a.m.
- g. Stewardship Committee: Carlton Hogge
 - i. Giving updates:
 - Offering collected to date in 2025: \$183,094.76
 - Designated funds collected to date in 2025: \$10,122.00
 - Our total collected is just about \$195,000 and our budgeted giving is about \$189,000, so we are ahead of schedule for giving this year.
 - ii. Budgets due: August 11 is the due date for committees to submit their budget requests for the new year. Please pray for the Stewardship Committee as they prepare the new church budget.
 - iii. Wanda German reminded committee leaders that budget request forms are in the church office, and they can also see what they requested last year and how much has been spent so far in 2025.
- h. Benevolence: Frank Wingfield
 - i. Current balance as of June 30, 2025 is \$5262.96.
 - ii. In July, we transferred \$1000 to the Jubilee Churches, which is a group of churches that work together to meet community needs. This group helps with identifying needs and vetting those who are requesting help.
 - iii. Year-to-date giving to the benevolence fund is \$1401.08. On behalf of the Newington Baptist Church deacons, thank you for your contributions to the benevolence fund.
- i. Pastor's Report
 - i. Pastor Chris reminded everyone that deacon nominations are also being collected. Today was the last day to submit names for consideration. They will be voted on at the next business meeting.
 - ii. Two baptisms last Sunday! At least 2-4 more for inside NBC on Sun. Oct. 12
 - iii. Possibly 6 to 7 new members in the next few weeks!
 - iv. He continues to meet twice a month to pray and share with 3 other local pastors.
 - v. He continues in his quarterly leadership on the MTBA administrative council.
 - vi. Gospel of John message series will continue until February with a break for Christmas.
 - vii. They hosted young adults (college age) dinner with six attendees (Two more wanted to attend, but were unable to)

- viii. We are planning for two weeks of hosting the GUEST winter shelter in late December and March 2026 after conversations with Michelle Wells, the GUEST executive director about improvements needed to help volunteers.
 - ix. NBC Fundraising Calendar: Today: OCC in July. Bethel Bear Backpack collection on Sunday, August 10th.
 - x. Deeper Bible Study will restart on September 3rd with a kick-off in the book of Isaiah until June 2026.
 - xi. Men's small group continues on Thursdays. May begin twice a month in the fall.
 - xii. Missions Team has approved going back to Kentucky in April 2026 as well as approved the 2026 budget request. Pastor Chris notes that we have increased our missions giving greatly in the last two years. We are giving \$8500 a year to missionaries (up from \$2500 in the past). We are supporting 5 missionary families (up from 2). We have 6-7 members on the Missions Team and could use 1 to 2 more members.
 - xiii. Attended an MTBA pastor's leadership lunch. Also attended their AI seminar.
 - xiv. Future speakers lined up: Anrew Snipes on 8/17, Walter Johnson on 8/31, Anthony Riedel on 9/28.
 - xv. Church continues with 'Reading through the Gospel' devotions each week until December 1.
- V. James King asked for any new business. None was put forward. Carlton Hogge made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Jerry Young seconded. Meeting was adjourned after closing in prayer.