

**Newington Baptist Church Quarterly Business Meeting  
Sunday April 27, 2025**

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**Call to Order:** Joe Semanski, Vice-Moderator, called the meeting to order.

**Prayer:** Pastor Chris Grella led us in prayer.

**Election of Moderator:** Heather King, team leader of the Nominating Committee.

Heather King announced that the Nominating Committee asked James King to serve as Moderator for our church business meetings. He agreed to serve. She made a motion that James King serve in this position. Joe Semanski called for a vote to accept James King as Moderator. He was accepted as moderator by a unanimous vote. Joe Semanski, Chair of the Deacons, will continue to serve as Vice-Moderator. He filled in for James at this meeting.

**Reading of the Minutes of Jan. 19, 2025, Business Meeting:** Heather King made a motion that we dispense with the reading of the minutes. Juli Semanski seconded the motion. Joe called for a vote to accept the minutes as they stood. The motion was accepted unanimously.

**Reports:**

**Nominating Committee:** Heather King, Children Ministry Director and Worship Leader

- The committee is seeking a new Clerk for the quarterly business meeting because Regina Smith has stepped down. Duties include taking notes at the quarterly business meetings and providing copies of these minutes to the Administrative Assistant and the Board of Directors.
- Many volunteers have joined committees, such as Nursery, Missions, Library, Greeter, and Hospitality. However, we need to vote for certain positions, which follow:
  - Beth Henderson as a member of the Counting Committee
  - Beth Henderson as a substitute for the JOY Sunday School class
  - Vicki Pruden as a member of the Nominating Committee.
- Joe Semanski called for a vote to accept the above names to the respective church committees and teams. They were approved unanimously.

**Financial:** Wanda German, Church Treasurer. Wanda gave an overview to the attached reports:

- **Congregational Report Jan -March 2025.**
  - Wanda reported that the **Operating Balance** had an opening balance of \$79,275.57 and a closing balance of \$32,218.87.
  - She mentioned that the **Endowment Funds** are managed by the Board of Directors with BOD member, Corky Hogge, acting in oversight. We currently have three people receiving funds from our Education Fund.
  - Regarding **Designated Donations**, Wanda shared that we received \$55.00 for our Lottie Moon, \$685.00 for Annie Armstrong, and \$1,645.00 for CareNet Crisis Program. This past week, she and Jerry Young counted \$643.25 in coins in the CareNet Baby Bottle collection. These funds will be sent off to CareNet this coming week.
- **Profit & Loss Budget vs. Actual January through March 31, 2025**
  - Our total expenses were \$110, 553.94. Wanda told us not to be concerned about the net income figure of -\$30,645.44. It was high because we have the usual large one-time expenses at the beginning of the year and that our utilities bill was unusually high. Also, \$18,000.00 from last year's budget excess was moved to our deferred maintenance account this January. Our financial health is sound. She said that we are a blessed church and that we are doing God's work.
- **Designated Funds as of March 31, 2025.** We have a balance of \$145,013.44.



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- **Wanda called for questions and discussions from the congregation.** Vicki Pruden asked why we had a **Children's Camp Endowment Fund** if we did not send children from our church to Children's Camp. Wanda turned to Corky Hogge for the answer because the church endowments are his area of oversight on the Board. Corky explained that the endowment was originally set up for Music Camp Endowments. When the funds were no longer being used, Corky reached out to the people who set up the endowment. They decided to allow the funds to be used for any camp for church members. When Vicki asked how someone could apply, we told her that the forms were available on the church website and that she could also reach out to the administrative assistant for the forms. He suggested that she let the children in her Sunday School class know about it. Vicki suggested that this information be posted on the FYI Board. Wanda German said this item would be passed on to the Board. Vicki asked about the Missions/Local Outreach Designated Fund. Wanda told her that these funds were transferred from the Ellis Hall Endowment to create this fund and that the Missions Team oversees these funds.
- **Joe Semanski made a motion that we vote to accept the Financial Report as they stand.** Corky Hogge seconded the motion. The motion was passed unanimously.

**Newington Preschool:** Sharon Shelton gave the report from Stephanie Smith, Director who was not in attendance.

- Enrollment is open for next year. The four-year-old program is filling up quickly with 100% of this year's three-year-old class returning. There are five on a waiting list. The three-year-old class has spaces available.
- On May 9<sup>th</sup>, they are holding a Mother's Tea.
- Field Day is on May 23.
- The possibility of kindergarten is under discussion. Stephanie asks that everyone join her in prayer as they explore the idea.

**BOD:** Gerald German, Chairperson

- All necessary paperwork for state incorporation requirements has been completed for the year.
- The church's insurance documents are up to date and finalized for the current period.
- The review and approval of all church policies and procedures are ongoing. BOD members will ensure that all necessary documentation is signed and completed by June 1, 2025.
- He told us that we presented a motion from the BOD to transfer the funds remaining in the church's insurance fund (\$986.00) to the Building Use fund. Joe called for a vote. The motion was passed unanimously.

**Personnel:** Juli Semanski for Buddy King, team leader.

- Everything is going well.
- Our review of the Personnel Committee Policies and Procedures is completed.
- Buddy has arranged for coverage for the administrative absences through the end of the year.

**Properties:** Joe Semanski, Chair

- The floors in the Historical/Prayer Room were replaced with LVT. The table was refinished and the chairs replaced.
- The replacement ramp for the Clothes Closet was delivered on Friday. It is metal. Sections of the landing will be replaced with composite. The Properties Team will do the labor.

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- The new pumps for the septic tanks system passed the test Sunday when the Baptistry tub was emptied.
- He commented on the bad odor coming from the bathroom in the church's foyer this morning. The Properties Team will be looking into it.
- They will be looking into the leak in the roof in the hallway adjacent to the Trinity Classroom.
- They installed a new ice machine in the kitchen.
- They completed the renovation of the Fellowship Foyer. They redid the wall and installed LVT and a new heater.
- Buddy King, Ronnie Michaud, and Joe are covering for Heather Honchak while she is out, recovering from surgery.

**Youth:** Brenda Armistead, Youth Ministry Director (See attached report.)

- Catherine King and Kacey Johnson will lead Youth Group when Brenda is away for a work conference on Wed., April 30. They will review Youth Sunday order of service.
- May 4 is Youth Sunday.
- They are averaging 6-7 each week in Sunday School.
- During the past 3 months, a couple of the youth have taught some of the lessons during the past 3 months during Wednesday Youth Group.
- We have 16 students and 4 chaperones attending Fuge Camp at Regent University July 7-11.
- We have met our fundraising goal for camp.
- Easter Eggs donations are \$12038. There are a few more donations to be counted and added to this amount.

**Constitutions and Bylaws James Review Committee:** James King, member of the committee

- Two topics were discussed at the Q and A session. The first decision was to withdraw the change to Article 3. The second decision was to review the duties of the church treasurer, comparing them to these duties outlined in the Policies and Procedures. The duties do not match. This review will be done at a later date.
- Joe Semanski made a motion to accept the CC and BL as they stand. When he called for a vote, the motions passed unanimously and without discussion.

**Pastor's Report:** Chris Grella, Senior Pastor

Pastor Chris provided a written report to all present. (See attached). He noted these items:

- Two baptisms planned for July 20.
- He is organizing a New Members's class to be held May 10.
- He introduced the topic of NBC's **Deacons Emeritus**. Chris noted that we currently only have one Deacon Emeritus and that their role was revised in the updated CC and BL. He nominated Gerald German and Corky Hogge to the position of Deacon Emeritus. Geraldine Young seconded the motion. When Joe Semanski called for a vote, they both were approved unanimously.

Pastor Chris closed the meeting with prayer.

*Minutes recorded by Juli Semanski*



*Gerald German*

## **Newington Baptist Church Board of Directors Meeting Report**

**Date:** April 27, 2025

### **State Incorporation and Church Insurance:**

- ✓ • All necessary paperwork for state incorporation requirements has been completed for the year.
- ✓ • The church's insurance documents are up to date and finalized for the current period.

### **Policies and Procedures:**

- ✓ • The review and approval of all church policies and procedures are ongoing.
- BOD members will ensure that all necessary documentation is signed and completed by **June 1, 2025.**

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## **Pastors (President) Quarterly Bus. Mgg. Report – 4/27/24**

- I continue with twice/month prayer & sharing w/ three local pastors.
- I continue with leadership at the MTBA administrative council. We meet every quarter in Saluda.
- **Angie and I continue to lead our Sunday school class. New material on 'the Holy Spirit'**
- I continue to read monthly in both Newington preschool classes. (2<sup>nd</sup> Wed.'s & Thursday's)
- Gospel of Mark series just concluded. Gospel of John series begins in June.
- I continue with Leviticus Wed. Bible study until mid June. Then 5 week summer discipleship series.
- Men' small group continues monthly on 4<sup>th</sup> Thursday of month. Francis Chan's 'Forgotten God'
- Boxes of Hope Mission trip to Appalachia was great. Shared with 143 kids, 5 decisions for Jesus!
- Volunteered twice when we hosted the GUEST ministry at end of March.
- Was able to help get the church cleaned out in Fish classroom, Gym and old Sanctuary.
- Completed ten month process on the Const. & Bylaws update.
- Spoke at St. Therese on Fri. April 4 for their Lenten Soup series.
- Led and spoke at our Sunrise Easter service.
- National day of prayer hosting this week - May 1 @ 6:30 pm. All six presenters lined up.
- Youth Sunday is May 4<sup>th</sup>. Pastor Larry Biermann will be preaching for me on May 25<sup>th</sup>
- Continue to put together weekly Reading through Gospels devotionals discipleship plan - ends Dec. 1.

**Subject** Quarterly meeting  
**From** Stephanie Smith  
<smithstephanie452@gmail.com>  
**To:** Sharon Shelton <shelton1832@cox.net>  
**Date** Today at 2:46 PM

Hi Sharon,

I let Heather know I won't be able to come to the meeting tomorrow and she said she was also leaving the meeting early so she wouldn't be able to give a preschool report.

I don't know if you want to say something on behalf of the preschool but if you do here is a brief report.

- enrollment is open for next school year. Our four year old program filled up quickly with 100% of our 3's class returning. We also have 5 on the waiting list.

- we still have space in the three's class.

- coming up we are having a mother's day tea May 9th. The kids have learned a couple of songs to sing for their mom/mother figure. We will be serving tea and muffins.

- may 23 we are having our field day/end of year celebration at the church. There will be food and games. We will probably be asking for volunteers to come and help with a game station.

I don't know if you want to mention the kindergarten possibility since I don't know what the board has said about that but if I was going to mention it I was planning to just ask that everyone joins us in praying for that as we explore getting it going.

Stephanie



## April 27th Business Meeting Youth Report

Wednesday April 30<sup>th</sup>, I will be away for a work conference. Catherine King and Kacey Johnson will be leading that night, going over Youth Sunday order of service.

May 4<sup>th</sup>, will be Youth Sunday.

Sunday School, we have been averaging 6-7 weekly over the past month. (it's growing)

Wednesday Nights, We have had a couple of Youth who have taught lessons over the past 3 months.

Sunday Mornings still using D6 Curriculum and on Wednesday evenings we are doing a series on God is our Anchor, Does he Exist?

Fundraising and Camp: Thank you to everyone who has contributed towards our Camp goal. Each student paid \$109 deposit which left a balance of \$300 per each student. We have 16 students and 4 chaperones going. Chaperones are: Doug, Robert (Bob) Morris, Tracy Stippel and myself. Fuge Camp is at Regent University in VA Beach, July 7-11. Each Chaperone requires up to date training and background checks. (That is just about complete) We will be renting 2 vans for transportation. (Thanks Doug)

I am happy to report, I think we have met our fundraising goal for camp.

\$12038.

eggs

more to come .