



new hope church

2023 annual praise & business gathering

May 21, 2023 - 4:30pm
Minutes

I. Praise & Thanksgiving

A. Welcome & Opening Song (Melissa Rodriguez & Emily Jones)

B. Stories: *"In what way have you seen God at work in and through New Hope Church?"* (Julie Andersen)

1. Julie pointed out highlights in the Annual Report. – Attendance, New Members, Life Groups, Care Ministry Outreach, Care & Love, Gifts at the Holidays, Next Gen Ministry impact, Volunteers, Global Ministries, Hope House, Adult Ministries (men, women, grandparents), Food Shelf, School supply drive.
2. Julie asked, What has God done that we can celebrate?
 - Carol Roberts: Praising God for the elders who were praying before the meeting.
 - Jim Fultz – Greeted someone at the reception desk, named Barb. She just became a new believer. She was invited by someone from NHC to attend. God's fingerprints are on everyone's story.
 - Jo Jones – Met someone new this morning. She brought her to the Welcome Desk and down to the New Visitor Reception.
 - Julie Andersen – Hymn sing has many who watch on line.
 - Joyce Cooke – Got a call from someone (Deanna) at church asking if she needed a ride to church.
 - Emily Jones – Shout out to Young Adult Ministry volunteers. YA has been growing and working hard.
 - Randy Moselle – Wanted to bring the Gospel to Disability Ministries on Sunday mornings. He had a dad of a transgender child that accepted the Lord after coming.
 - David Kobliesh – Has officiated at many funerals. He has shared the gospel and continued to meet with family members after the funeral. Three of those have come to Christ.
 - Deb Boal – Praise for Moms Together. Many moms from NHC and other churches attend.
 - Ginny McMillan – Thanks to all who have ministered to their family.
 - Jot Turner – Loves when he has his eyes open to things he hasn't seen before, like this morning with the disability folks in the service.
 - Cyndi Theisen – Got to lead a group in Precept ministries.
 - Jennifer Shuga – Thank everyone and praise God for how we are sharing with the community and around the world. She was here this morning with someone she met at Marshall's who lives in a group home and she invited her to church. She was able to visit and pray at the group home after church. Continue to pray for revival.
 - Pam Lung – Thankful to be a part of the India team. Amazing to see the work God is doing among the Mangala people. Thanks for the support.
 - Tony Ringsmuth – Thank Jody Abboud for the One Thing Prayer nights.
 - Don Herweyer – Great year for Men's Ministry. Great year planned ahead.

- Kathy Herweyer – She and Don serve in Children’s Ministries with 1st and 2nd grade. This was outside her comfort zone but she knows this is where God wants them.
- Carol Roberts – Jim Fultz and the Moselle’s all worked with her son in the past.

C. Prayer of Thanksgiving (Derrick Grow)

II. Call to Order (ELT Chair Ken Wright)

- A. Adopt Agenda
- B. Voice Approval of 5/15/22 Meeting Minutes
- C. Voice Approval of 8/28/22 Meeting Minutes

III. Congregational Leadership

- A. ELT Chair Reflections (ELT Chair Ken Wright)
 1. It has been a hard year for everyone including his family. Many have been praying for them. He is thankful for these prayers. It has been hard at NHC too, hard to say goodbye to staff. Again, he is thankful for the prayers.
 2. Property Council recognition. Doug Dahl and Brian Karsjens have served for many years. Ken read a list of all that the Property Council has overseen. This is a purely volunteer group.
 3. Saado recognized 2 elders whose terms are ending – Jason McNutt and Armando Mazon.
- B. Elected Positions (Nominating Committee Chair Ken Wright)
 1. Leadership Candidates – Ken asked the candidates to stand.
 2. Voting Instructions

IV. Old Business

- A. Steve Brown – internal audit report

V. The Ministry Funding Plan (Cathy Maupin)

- A. History –
 1. Ken explained how funding was established in the past. It is difficult to use this same process now (post covid).
 2. We have not been spending to budget. It has been a difficult year. Giving is much less than expected. We had money in the bank and were able to cover some of this discrepancy but it was more than expected.
 3. Explanation of how we built our plan for this year. We want to match up to expected giving this year. We still have cash in the bank but hope to not have to tap into this.
 4. God provides manna in the dessert. We are totally dependent on God, always.
- B. Financial Summary
 1. Current Financial Status
 2. Auditor’s Statements
- C. 2023-24 Ministry Funding Presentation (Cathy Maupin)
 1. We need to make changes at this point and some are significant changes.
 2. Background - In the past 5 years, we have had some very generous cash gifts come in, in addition to regular giving. We also had the PPP (Payment Protection Program) loan, which we did not have to pay back. We have not had these big gifts come in and we felt we needed to do more to cut expenses.
 3. Cathy presented the Ministry Funding Plan (located in the Annual Report). We are relying on over \$21,000 less per week in spending average weekly giving currently

is just over \$64,000 per week. Cathy pointed out our savings in staffing cost (mostly due to staff reductions). Also, our wearbook reserves – we are foregoing any addition to this account this year but would like to add it back in next year. Looks like IT has increased but actually this increase reflects hiring an IT contractor which is offset by a greater savings in salary payments formerly paid to an IT employee. We are not giving up ministry, but trying to reimagine how we do things. Each department does have scholarship money available if needed.

4. What if our giving still doesn't meet our spending needs? We will continue to monitor this weekly. We will keep the congregation informed. We can sell assets or consider another staff reduction. This is not in our plan.
5. How can we help achieve giving to budget? Evaluate your personal giving. Give all summer long. If you have RMD's from your IRA, call Cathy re: QCD's. Volunteer! Pick up the check if meeting with a pastor or staff member at a restaurant.
6. Q&A
 - How much money do we have in reserves? Approximately \$875,000
 - How is the staff person for the Hope House funded? They are given free housing but not paid a salary.
 - Will we reincorporate the offering plate? Discussions have been had around this possibility.
 - How do we contribute to the district or EFCA? We have a monthly amount we contribute.
 - The Global outreach reduction, where is this from? No longer offering global budgeted contingency amounts from reserve funds, which we previously did.
 - Any thought about offering estate planning seminar for people? Yes

VI. Reflecting Upon & Reaching Our Vision (Pastor Matthew St. John)

VII. Congregational Q&A

VIII. Closing Prayer & Adjournment