

First Baptist Church Keller Deacon Meeting January 14, 2024

Meeting was conducted on-campus at First Baptist Church Keller (FBCK) and via Zoom Meeting.

Staff Members in Attendance on-campus or on Zoom

Keith Sanders, Lawrence Duhon, Scott Knox, Mike Gonzales

Deacons in Attendance

A total of 57 deacons signed in on-campus and on Zoom for the meeting.

Call to Order, Welcome Remarks

1. Chairman Guy Simpson called the meeting to order, welcomed the deacons and staff, and thanked them for attending the meeting. Jon Taylor opened the meeting in prayer. Perry Leonard prayed for church unity and Russ Adams prayed for the widows. The Deacon body broke into individual rooms to pray for each of the pastors. Deacons attending the meeting via Zoom prayed for pastors not in attendance on campus.
2. New Deacon Ordination Process: (Matt Porter comments) The New Deacon Training is underway. The first of 4 trainings session occurred on October 29th and included training on a year in the life of a Deacon. The next meeting is planned for January 21st and it was mentioned for the Deacon candidates to be on the lookout for an email regarding the February meeting. Pastor Keith comments - Tentative ordination council in May. The Vietnamese church that meets on the FBCK campus has several Deacon candidates as well. Brother Dan from the Vietnamese church has translated the FBCK Deacon training for them to use.
3. Email History : Tom Pessing commented on how we have a new IT company supporting FBCK. Deacons are receiving duplicate emails and this issue will be looked into.

Ministry Teams – Dan Trantham:

1. Hospital Visitation Team – Ron Shields: Blessing that not many members are in the hospital at this point. Visits continue to be made.
2. Widows Team – Don Johnston: current on widows assignments. Thanks to everyone who planned and executed the banquet. It was great! Many widows have sent cards of thanks.
3. Physical Services Team – Dan Trantham: No new issues. Welcome to anyone who wants to join and help.
4. Lord's Supper Ordinance Administration Team – Jim Roberts: Thanks to Dennis Lang for all the years he was the team lead for Lord's Supper. Next Sunday (1/21) is Lord's Supper. We still need a few Deacon's to sign up. Schedule for 2024 posted on the Deacon website. Watch your email for the serving location assignments. Preparation on Saturday, January 20th at 1pm in the check-in room across from the sanctuary.
5. Baptism Ordinance Team – Kreg Bryant: Thanks to Tom & Chris for helping with the baptisms earlier today. 4 Vietnamese church members baptized at the 11am service. Next meeting Kreg is planning to share the numbers as he has done in the past at the start of the year. Tom commented that the last young man from the Vietnamese church that was supposed to be baptized was not allowed by the family to be baptized.

6. Sunday Prayer Team – Perry Leonard: Thank you for praying for our Pastors. Team is covered but any of the Deacon’s are welcome to join praying.
7. New Member Candidate Visitation Team – Dan Trantham: Schedule is posted on the Deacon website through end of June 2024. We need a new person to become the team lead due to Jim’s new role as an officer.
8. Deacon-Led Prayer Team – Chris Norris: 2024 schedule is posted on the Deacon website. A recap of the assignments for January were mentioned.

Associate Pastor – Missions & Evangelism Lawrence Duhon:

- Kenya team that had just left had to return due to passport issues
- Feb 17th – Tok, Alaska trip to support Jeff Sulfridge in Alaska
- Looking at ways to use our soon to be pavilion to be used to reach our immediate neighborhood
- Widows Garden – going well and still some produce available downstairs on the cart by the welcome desk.
- FBCK supporting 7 nursing homes and going well.

Senior Pastor Keith Sanders:

- Many thank you’s from widows for the banquet. There were some gift bags left over and the gift cards left over were added to the benevolence account and gifts given out to nursing homes FBCK sponsors.
- Wendy Price has retired and a luncheon for her is on Tuesday (Jan 16th) next week. On January 28th, she will be recognized in both services. Wendy’s position has been posted for applications. Ellie Trantham volunteered while home from college.
- December 2023 was the greatest month of giving in the ~150 years history of FBCK
- In 2024 big things are coming for FBCK and the Vision Team is being put back together.
- Questions – Rick Baker asked how Keith is feeling and Keith responded “Great”. The plan is for Keith to preach every 5 or 6 weeks then take a Sunday off.

Minister – Senior Adults Mike Gonzales:

- Great last Gap breakfast (1st one of the year) and Hannah Reynolds was the guest speaker from Mission:Dignity She felt so comfortable with our people and was able to connect well with everyone.
- Next Gap breakfast guest speaker will be John Welch talking about finishing well.
- Gearing up for attending the Empower Evangelism Conference, 26th of February. David Jeremiah, Gaither Band and others will be there and excited for this. 55 are signed up.

Associate Pastor - Administration Scott Knox:

- Thanks to Dick Chase for serving faithfully with the Audio/Visual setup
- Highest month of giving ever in FBCK church history in December, \$1.2 million. %104 budget year to date. Projections are for ~\$5.6 million for the church fiscal year based on the current giving trend. \$400K over positive cash flow.
- Designated giving of two \$100K monetary gifts for Missions and two \$50K monetary gifts for the North Lot and others for Youth Camp, etc.
- \$1.5 million line of credit approved by the church

- Construction looking to be completed April/May, depending on weather.
 - Rick Baker asked what was left on the parking lot and Scott answered the irrigation and electrical.
- Staff responsibility updates due to Wendy's retirement
 - Dori – Anything related to Baptisms – permanent
 - Janet – Funerals – temporary
 - Cindy / Amie T. – prayer list and hospitalizations
 - Temp ladies – answering phones, business meeting agenda/minutes, misc.

Deacon Chairman's Discussion – Guy Simpson:

- 2 Deacon transfer candidates have completed all the steps to become Deacon's at FBCK; Lynn Carpenter and Ed Newsom
- November 2023 Deacon Meeting Minutes - The November 2023 Deacon Meeting minutes were approved with motion from Ricky Baker and 2nd from John Porter.

Benevolence Fund Balances:

Widow Benevolence: \$6636.09

Deacon Benevolence: \$1315.43

Next Deacon meeting: February 11th at 3:30pm.

Prayer Requests – Jim Sabey:

Scotty Mullins – open heart surgery scheduled for January 26th.

Bearden family – continue to keep them in your prayers.

Deacon candidates – prayers as they continue training and prepare for the ordination council in May

Closing Prayer by Jim Sabey

Respectfully submitted,
Jim Sabey, Vice-Chair Records