

First Baptist Church Keller Deacon Meeting February 11th, 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, Tony Richmond, Andrew Young, Gregory Baines, Lawrence Duhon, Mike Gonzales, Sterling Burdine

Deacons in Attendance

A total of 59 (10 of these candidates) 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, offered a welcome/thank you for attending the meeting. Guy opened the meeting in prayer. The Deacon body then broke into individual rooms to pray for each of the pastors on campus. Deacons attending the meeting via Zoom prayed for pastors not in attendance on campus. Upon returning from praying for staff, Lance Wyatt prayed for Church physical/spiritual health and Nate Davis prayed for Church wisdom.
2. New Deacon Ordination Process: (Guy Simpson comments) Next New Deacon Training is scheduled for February 18th, note the time of 3:30pm and then March 24th at 3:30pm. April training is TBD. May is planned to have the Ordination Council, date TBD.

Ministry Teams – Dan Trantham:

1. Hospital Visitation Team – Ron Shields: Fortunately, we have not had too many members in the hospital. The Team is ready to help as needed.
2. Physical Services Team – David McReynolds: it's been quiet lately. With spring right around the corner be thinking about your widows and see if they need any work around the house/yard. April/May, maybe Andrew Young can help organize youth to assist with projects for our widows. Text is best to get a hold of David and reach out anytime.
3. Lord's Supper Ordinance Administration Team – Jim Roberts: Thanks to everyone for all the help for January 21st Lord's Supper, everything went great! Next Lord's Supper is Good Friday, March 29th and prep on March 28th at 1pm.
4. Baptism Ordinance Team – Kreg Bryant: Kreg shared a slide depicting baptisms by year that tracks the baptisms since 2016 with 42 from last year. We praise the Lord for the baptisms, and we are seeing all ages and stages of life. Two more baptisms currently planned for end of February and the beginning of March. Exciting to see so many volunteers rotating in this Team.
5. Widows Team – Dan Trantham for Don Johnston: Don was unable to be at the meeting. There are 2 new widows; one is covered and another, Barbara Garner needing deacon assignment.
6. Sunday Prayer Team – Dan Trantham for Perry Leonard: Perry was unable to be at the meeting. Everything's going find with this Team. Anyone that's interested in joining this Team, please reach out to Perry and all are welcome to join.
7. New Member Candidate Visitation Team – Dan Trantham: Paul Chastain has agreed to volunteer to take over this Team. Current schedule thru week of June 30th posted on the Deacon website.

8. Deacon-Led Prayer Team – Dan Trantham for Chris Norris: Chris is on mission trip and not in attendance. Direction from Dr. Perkinson is to keep the Deacon led prayer to FBCK church matters (church unity, the offering, the staff, the pastor delivering the message) and keep away from topics such as geo-political events, politics, sports, etc.

Other comments from Dan Trantham - as Deacons keep your eyes open for help assisting people to find a seat as needed in the worship services.

Updates from Pastors/Staff in attendance

Senior Pastor Keith Sanders:

- Scott Knox was not in attendance, so Pastor Keith provided his updates as well
- North Lot –
 - a lot of progress.
 - contractors have been telling us that they are going to be completely done by end of April. This is their schedule.
 - FBCK has been invoiced every month since work started and we are paying as we go.
 - A \$1.5 Million line of credit was taken out at the start of this calendar year, but so far we have not need to use it.
 - Giving has been good thus far, but we will likely use the line of credit at some point
 - Pray for the members of FBCK to continue to be generous
- FBCK Staff in March will be going off campus for a retreat of a few days to pray through what the future vision of FBCK looks like and bring back the findings to the church.
- Church wide picnic planned for sometime this summer after vacation Bible school to dedicate the new buildings.
- Vision Team to be pulled back together and announced at the dedication with 50 members from various backgrounds, including;
 - Chairman of the 11 standing committees
 - Deacon officers
 - Various people based on age and involvement in various ministries of the church
 - Plan is to meet quarterly for prayer
 - Scott & Keith met with a builder in Dallas last week to kick off the conversations again
 - The church body is continuing to grow since Covid but we are not back to where we were.
 - We've had on the first Sunday we switched to 2 services, 1,448 in Sunday School but we do well if we reach 1,200.
 - We needed to build back then and we were ready.
 - We are debt free. Expect in the next year or 2 that the Lord is leading us to build.
- Ministry Plan –
 - The staff has been putting together their individual plans and those are due in the next week.
 - Then the committee will start meeting and bring the church budget to the church body to be voted on no later than April since the new fiscal year starts on July 1st.
 - This year we had the largest budget we've ever had, \$6.1 Million.

- Part of this was due to many projects around the church building that we wanted to do and those have been completed.
 - For the upcoming fiscal year starting July 1st, we are going to back off the overall budget a little bit, looking more like \$5.8 Million
 - Plan is to give at least %10 of the general funds to missions
 - Continue to maintain our staff with hopefully a cost of living adjustment
 - Trying to stay within our means as always
 - Giving in January was good and February started great
 - If you've noticed on the screens around church, we are still ahead of budget
 - 20 weeks left but work to do if we are going to make budget
- Ricky Baker question if when the contractors state end of April to be completed, does that include the parking lot area as well. Pastor Keith answer, the contractors are planning to be totally completed by end of April.
 - Already using the parking lot every Sunday and they are going to wait until very end for lights and striping. A lot of plans, weather permitting.

Associate Pastor – Missions & Evangelism Lawrence Duhon:

- We are in a very busy time for missing trips. In the next 5 weeks, 5 mission teams going out. Praise the Lord!
 - One right now in Guatemala
 - Another group leaving Saturday
 - India
 - Kenya
 - Youth – Choir Tour and Middle/High School to Albuquerque over Spring Break
- The GA's made special Valentine's cards for our church body in nursing homes that were handed out over the weekend, and it was a great blessing.
- Thank you for those that have volunteered to be ushers in the worship services.

Associate Pastor – Family Ministry Tony Richmond:

- This weekend in the FBCK Loft we had a great gospel family conference led by Dr. Jonathan Williams who is a professor at the seminary & Director of a ministry called Gospel Family Ministry
 - ~65 families represented.
 - The content was really good. In Dr. Williams teaching on marriage, he discussed about the puritan pastor Richard Baxter praying for revival. If God is going to answer the prayer of revival, it's going to start in churches because of it starting in the homes. Our homes are under attack, marriages on the brink of divorce so please continue to pray.
 - Because of the church budget, FBCK was able to provide this conference free of cost.
 - A couple of families visiting FBCK were able to come to the conference because their kids go to the FBCK preschool. They said that the teaching at the conference was great, but they said FBCK showed outstanding hospitality.
- Just finished Wednesday nights Pillar of Truth on the topic of church history from last Fall and this year.
- Next Wednesday, Gregory and Tony will co-teach a class starting called Gender & Identity according to the Bible over 4 weeks.

- Church membership – had another orientation this morning with 8 in attendance.
- Invite people to church, there's power in relationships. Save them a seat!

Minister – Senior Adults Mike Gonzales:

- ~130 present at recent GAP breakfast where we normally have around 60. It's recorded if anyone would like to listen. Kreg Bryant did a great job interviewing Connie Welch.
- Game day Thursday on the 15th also with crafts.
- Starting a dementia/alzheimer's support group meeting the 2nd Thursday at 10am in room 134 and it's growing as we need a lot of support for this in our church.
- February 26th - 27th is the Empower conference for the Senior adults.

Pastoral Apprentice Sterling Burdine

- About 1 year of the internship here at FBCK finished and Sterling's grown a lot and very grateful that our church brings in people to work under our pastors to learn and grow.

Minister – Students Andrew Young

- Student, Children and College ministries all doing great.
- Janet is doing a wonderful job throughout the week.
- Pray for Equip that happens on Wednesday nights as they are also in a study on gender and sexuality.
- We reach out to the parents of our youth to keep the informed on the topics being discussed to formulate a Biblical worldview with our students.
- Mission trip in a different way this Spring Break March 9th thru 14th.
 - Not just High School but also partnering with Pastor Matt Perkinson and bringing student choir as well.
 - Combined co-ed trip that is saving FBCK families money.
 - Great opportunity for our students to help with 4 to 5 church planters in New Mexico, especially in Albuquerque and the surrounding areas.
 - New Mexico is a state that is really lost and a large homeless ministry and people in need.

Minister – Adults Gregory Baines

- We had a great Men's breakfast. Thank you for all that showed up. Really appreciate Kreg and all his planning and organizing.
 - Next Men's breakfast is in April – going to be talking about praying for revival, pulling from Mark Bearden's (Gregory's father-in-law) teaching.
- Thank you all so much for praying for Gregory's family as they have been dealing with the loss of Mark. Such a blessing to have a church family around and supporting them.
- Adult Sunday School moving into Galatians in March.
- Young Adults class (20's and 30's) had to get more chairs last week. Praise the Lord for that.

Deacon Chairman's Discussion – Guy Simpson:

- The January 2024 Deacon Meeting minutes were approved by the Deacon body with no Deacons opposed.

Benevolence Fund Balances:

Widow Benevolence: \$7,834.25

Deacon Benevolence: \$1,315.43

- Next Deacon meeting: March 17th at 3:30pm.
- Schedule is updated on the Deacon website already.
- Originally date was March 10th, but this is the first Sunday of Spring Break, and we know there will be mission teams out and people starting Spring Break.
- Make sure to shake a hand and introduce yourself to another Deacon in the room you don't know.

Prayer Requests – Jim Sabey:

A few quick items:

- Comment about email issue going on and this is being looked at and working on it.
- When attending via Zoom, can you please put in your name so that your attendance can be marked as present.

Prayer requests:

- Dwayne Weaver – received a note from Zoe Poston that their grandson Miles passed a key test and should be able to come off the Ecmo machine.
- Pastor Keith - Scotty Mullins came home from the hospital yesterday.
- Kreg Bryant – the Guatemala mission team completed the roof they'd been building, real praise to get it done before any weather issues. Now they can focus on electricity
- Jim Sabey – Juan Su, works for Jim and Juan has a tumor on his right acoustic nerve and having surgery on February 22nd to have the tumor removed. Been using this time to share the Gospel with Juan as well. Nervous about the surgery and ~4 to 5 month recovery.
- Lance Wyatt – prayer request from Russ & Janet Adams pray for unity for city officials and peace/encouragement for police officers. Russ/Janet's son is a police officer down in Austin. It is a rough time now for police officers and city officials.

Closing Prayer by Jim Sabey

Respectfully submitted,
Jim Sabey, Vice-Chair Records