

## **First Baptist Church Keller Deacon Meeting February 19, 2023**

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

### **Staff Members in Attendance on-campus**

Keith Sanders, Scott Knox, Mike Gonzales, and Andrew Young.

### **Deacons in Attendance**

A total of 54 deacons signed in on-campus and on Zoom for the meeting.

### **Call to Order, Welcome Remarks**

1. Chairman Matt Porter called the meeting to order, welcomed the deacons and staff, and thanked them for attending the meeting. Matt also opened the meeting in prayer. Deacons prayed for the FBCK Pastors and staff in breakout classrooms.
2. Matt welcomed 3 new Deacons that had transferred from other churches and completed all requirements: Steven Cooks, Garry Davis and Dwane Weaver. Matt also welcomed Lynn Carpenter who is a deacon transfer candidate that recently joined the church and is attending his first Deacon meeting at FBC Keller.

### **Ministry Teams – GH Cain:**

1. Sunday Prayer Team – GH Cain: Both services are going well and covered at this time.
2. Deacon-Led Prayer Team – GH Cain: The schedule is up to date on the website. Matt sends out a reminder every week. If there is a schedule change, please let Matt or GH know. We are currently seeking a volunteer to lead the team. Please contact Matt, GH or Guy if you are interested. The effort/commitment is relatively small as the group is already scheduled, just needs to be maintained and updated when necessary.
3. Hospital Visitation Team – Ron Shields: The team is very active. If you are made aware of someone going in the hospital over the weekend, please send Ron a text or email and he will try to get someone to visit. Still in need of additional Deacon volunteers to join the team, especially in downtown Ft. worth.
4. Widows Team – Don Johnston: Thank you to all the men that took on the 7 new widows since the beginning of the year. There is only 1 widow that is currently undecided and 2 widows that recently lost their husbands that will be placed soon.
5. Physical Services Team – David McReynolds: The Scotty Mullins and Tom Pessing team helped Dennis Lang's widow lights and making progress on Chris Norris' widow's home. Please continue to seek the needs of widows.
6. Lord's Supper Ordinance Administration Team – Matt Porter: Next service will be April 7, 2023 at the Good Friday Service.
7. Baptism Ordinance Team – Kreg Bryant: Dwane Weaver told how the baptism candidate this morning said that this was a life changing event, and she could not get enough of the Word. It was a blessing for Dwane to be a part of it. Grateful to be a part of the ordinance and for all those that serve. Chuck Kelly will be baptized in a couple of weeks. Good team in place.
8. New Member Candidate Visitation Team – Jim Sabey: Amie will send out reminders. The schedules for 2023 are out on the Deacon website. Great to be back in contact with new

members again. Remind them of the New Member Class and just be a touchpoint and source of information.

**Senior Pastor Keith Sanders:**

1. Attendance: Church attendance has been up over the last 2-3 months with the last 3 weeks averaging 1100 at service and 1060 in Sunday school.
2. Budget: Giving is currently ahead of budget with about 4 months to go in this fiscal year. The Budget Committee started planning the 2024 budget. Ricky Baker will be Chairman of the Budget Committee. This will be completed in March and then voted on by the church. The new fiscal year will start July 1<sup>st</sup>.
3. Personnel: Still praying about and seeking a Children's minister. The staff retreat will occur in a few weeks.
4. North Lot: Jim Brown, Chair of the Buildings and Ground Committee, and Jim Flick, Chair of the Long-Range Planning Committee put together a Building Committee which vetted 3 construction companies recently and presented a recommendation. Jim Brown Presented: Goff Construction was selected as the contractor for the North Lot development over two other companies. The final estimate for the complete job was \$4.6m – approximately \$1.5m over the original proposal approved by the church. The costs have gone up in both materials and labor. Defined as a design build where the church will be able to see all bills from the sub-contractors and suppliers and possibly identify possible savings throughout the build. Two drivers of increased costs 1) Inflation and 2) The scope has changed. The Widow's Garden improvements were dropped due to the number of variances from what the City was going to require. The focus is the North Lot and sports field. The baseball diamond was eliminated as a back stop could not be incorporated. Additional trees required. The final product will be much more usable by the church and school. Started as a storage area and now includes a pavilion, kitchen area with sink, ice machine, food warmers and refrigerators. City requires to abandon an easement to move forward with the parking lot. Original estimate was \$3.0m for fieldhouse, sports fields, and parking lot. The pavilion was an option. The pavilion alone is \$768k. If Deacon body agrees, will be presented to church next week. Church body allowed time to ask question during next week and then vote on 2 weeks after. Current projections are 8 months to complete once construction starts.
5. Paying for north lot project: We are very close to the full \$4.5M in cash based on \$1.7M balance in Vision Fund, \$1.0m in cash reserves, \$300k similar giving to Vision fund over next 3 months, and HCA will contribute \$500k.

The Deacon body agreed to take the revised proposal back for the church vote.

**Associate Pastor - Administration Scott Knox:**

1. Finances: Currently at 106% of budget to date. \$250k in positive cash flow. Expect to be under budget this fiscal year.
2. Buildings/Grounds: Remodeling main street within church is ongoing. Signage is up. Trees and greenery planned to arrive this week for inside.
3. HCA: Relationship still going very well. The 3<sup>rd</sup> year option on the current contract was just signed. Evaluating what a long-term lease looks like – potentially a 3-year rolling lease. HCA continues to grow and have a high level of commitment.
4. The finance, IT and HR continue to work well. Thank you to committees and staff.

**Associate – Student Ministry Andrew Young:** Planning for Spring break mission trips. High school going to New Mexico and Junior high/college working on locally with our widows. If you can be available at your widows to help, that would be great as well. If unable to complete during the week, will set up another day to come and complete. Still looking to fill the open Children’s Minister position. Ellie Trantham will serve as Student Ministry summer intern this summer.

**Minister – Senior Adults Mike Gonzales:** Senior Adult breakfast cancelled due to weather but rescheduled for the next week. Continuing with game days, breakfasts, and trips. Next trip will be to the Primera Iglesia Bautista de Keller to hear their history followed by lunch.

**Deacon Chairman’s Discussion – Matt Porter:**

**January 2023 Deacon Meeting Minutes** - Chairman Matt Porter received a motion from Jon Taylor and a second from Nate Davis to approve the January 2023 Deacon Meeting minutes. Passed unanimously.

**Benevolence Fund Balances:**

Deacon Benevolence = \$5,249

Deacon Widows Benevolence = \$5,253

Next meeting – March 12 at 4:00pm

**Prayer Requests – Matt Porter:**

Jim Block and family with the loss of his daughter Noelle  
Cathy Reagan with the passing of her husband Mark  
Billy Huber – Day 0 of Leukemia treatment starts tomorrow  
Ladessa Forshee – continues to recover after hip  
Mark Bearden – under hospice care  
Mary Merrifield – in rehab after heart issues at the Heritage House

**Closing Prayer by Guy Simpson**

Respectfully submitted,  
Guy Simpson, Vice-Chair Records