

## **First Baptist Church Keller Deacon Meeting March 12, 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 Lawrence Duhon.

### **Deacons in Attendance**

A total of 43 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 Lynn Carpenter and Ed Newsome who are deacons that recently joined the church and will be starting the Deacon Transfer process at FBC Keller.
3. We will start Deacon nomination process in April. Stay tuned.

### **Ministry Teams – GH Cain:**

1. Widows Team – GH Cain: One new widow has been assigned and 3 new widows that will need to be placed soon. Don is in the process of contacting the widows to understand their needs.
2. Physical Services Team – GH Cain: The team is doing well with no issues or major jobs at this point.
3. New Member Candidate Visitation Team – GH Cain: Working on summer schedule and will have that out soon. Some Deacons have had to step out, so looking for additional help on the team.
4. Hospital Visitation Team – GH Cain: Still in need of additional Deacon volunteers to join the team, especially in downtown Ft. worth.
5. Deacon-Led Prayer Team – GH Cain: Chris Norris has volunteered to lead the team. Thank you to Chris for his willingness to serve. The schedule is up to date on the website. There are 3-4 openings on the schedule. If you are willing to serve, please contact GH or Chris.
6. Baptism Ordinance Team – Kreg Bryant: Chuck Kelly was baptized this morning. He is an adult convert and hungry for the Lord. Two new candidates are planned, one youth and one adult. In the process of getting them on the schedule.
7. Sunday Prayer Team – Perry Leonard: Both services are going well and covered at this time. Even if you are not on the team, please pray for Keith and all the pastors continually.
8. Lord's Supper Ordinance Administration Team – Dennis Lang: Next service will be April 7, 2023 at the Good Friday Service. Will be sending out the sign up soon.

### **Senior Pastor Keith Sanders:**

1. Another planned baptism coming up from a couple that came to the church due to an invitation from Dennis Lang. Seeing more new attendees at the church due to invitations from members.
2. Staff Retreat: Last week the staff met at Camp Copus for their annual staff retreat. Pray together and hear from each pastor on plans for the year, pray for members of the church that they are counseling, talk about finances and then have some time to fellowship and catch-up.

Proposals coming out of retreat include 1) a plan for the Children's minister position that will be discussed at the Personnel Committee next month and 2) redistribution of some of Jack Gatewood's responsibilities. When Jack retired, the plan was to not fill that position, but to redistribute his responsibilities amongst the pastors and then review in a year how to proceed. There will be a proposal on this at the next Personnel Committee as well. Will hopefully be able to provide an update at the next Deacon Meeting.

3. Budget: Budget planning is ongoing.
4. North Lot: The vote this morning received a 98% favorable vote. We will sign the contracts soon with Goff Construction to lock in the current rates and then start permitting. Current estimates of 9-month project. Continue to pray for smooth process, all the workers safety and good weather. Will be a great tool for this church to reach the community.
5. Spring Break Ministries: Good opportunity for those with availability to help with the middle school kids out reach this week of going door-to-door to the neighborhoods around the church.
6. Attendance: Church attendance is growing and about 7% above last year. We have been very blessed and continue to pray for His blessings.

#### **Associate Pastor - Administration Scott Knox:**

1. Finances: Meeting with budget committee. Increase in budget due to inflation and other things. Will be completing the budget and presenting for approval in the next few weeks. Currently at 104.9% of budget to date. \$300k in positive cash flow.
2. HCA: Relationship still going very well. 250 enrolled at this campus and 230 enrolled at the Lanta campus. Very stable financially and in the best position they have been in their history. The 3<sup>rd</sup> year option on the current contract has been signed. Evaluating a long-term lease - potentially a 3-year rolling lease. They will have a proposal soon.
3. North Lot: Initial issue is with utility companies – Encore, AT&T and Atmos. Need to get abandonment of easements on West lot for replat for parking lot. Encore needs to move poles. Once these are done, then can begin our new work. No real ability to prioritize and move on some activities without ability to start on the full plan. Not very productive to try to work on individual activities without being able to fully move forward. Will identify best path forward once contract is signed. Thank you to those offering help and suggestions on the plan. Any issues with the roads surrounding the church are the city's responsibility.
4. Buildings/Grounds: Thank you to LeAnn Hale for leading a volunteer crew (20-30) to spread 50 yards of mulch around the church.

**Associate Pastor – Missions & Evangelism Lawrence Duhon:** Busy week of volunteer missions: over 80 people from the church out on ministry this week. Matt Perkinson and Mike Faubel will be in Kenya, 55 high schoolers in Albuquerque and 30+ here locally. The team of 6 just returned from Guatemala and were a blessing to that church. Next month will be an emphasis on Who is Your 1 campaign. Widows Garden continues to go well providing fresh produce for the widows and for those in nursing homes. 44 Yards of material will be spread this week in the 14 new beds being installed in the garden. Nursing homes continue to do well. Just lost one of our volunteers due to death recently. Praying that God will provide someone to help continue to minister at that site. One of the ministries we support is Amira's house. It is a home that supports pregnant women who chose to keep their babies instead of abortion and will support and monitor them up to 1 year after the birth of the child. The home has capacity for 2 women at a time. We are supporting them for the year, but they are looking for more long-term support.

**Minister – Senior Adults Mike Gonzales:** Continuing with game days in the new room, breakfasts, and trips. Next day trip will be to the Primera Iglesia Bautista de Keller to hear their history followed by lunch. Asking the GAP to help with this week’s ministries around the church and with VBS. Planning for activities for the remainder of the year.

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

**February 2023 Deacon Meeting Minutes** - Chairman Matt Porter received a motion from Chris Norris and a second from Richard Harris to approve the February 2023 Deacon Meeting minutes. Passed unanimously.

**Benevolence Fund Balances:**

Deacon Benevolence = \$5,049

Deacon Widows Benevolence = \$6,393

Next meeting – April 16 at 4:00pm

Deacon Retreat planned for May 5-6 (picnic Friday)

**Prayer Requests – Matt Porter:**

Larry Clark – loss of his wife Melva

Janie Gatewood – loss of her father Carlin Pruitt

Scott Castleberry– loss of nephew. Praise for outpouring of Houston friends and family

Don Dixon – recovering from motorcycle accident

Donna Waggoner – praise for heart for transplant and now recovering from heart transplant

Billy Huber – start of attack of stem cells this week, 20<sup>th</sup> is start of aggressive treatment

Norman Bilbrey – recovering from stomach cancer treatment

Mark Bearden – late-stage cancer. Praise he was able to see his new grandchild

**Closing Prayer by Guy Simpson**

Respectfully submitted,

Guy Simpson, Vice-Chair Records