

First Baptist Church Keller Deacon Meeting January 15, 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, Tony Richmond, Lawrence Duhon, Mike Gonzales, Matt Perkinson, and Landry Bennett.

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 Matt Porter called the meeting to order, welcomed the deacons and staff, and thanked them for attending the meeting. Ron Shields opened the meeting in prayer. Deacons prayed for the FBCK Pastors and staff in breakout classrooms.

Ministry Teams – GH Cain:

1. New Member Candidate Visitation Team – Jim Sabey: Thank you to all the volunteers. The new schedules for 2023 are out on the Deacon website. Anyone who does not have access to the website can call and work with Amie Thoms in the office for reminders.
2. Deacon-Led Prayer Team – GH Cain: Bruce Robidou has stepped down from leading the team and 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. The new schedule is out on the website for 2023.
3. Sunday Prayer Team – GH Cain: Both services are covered at this time
4. Widows Team – GH Cain: Seven new widows have been identified – 2 transfers and 5 new widows. Please reach out to Don if you do not have a widow or would like to take on a new widow. Matt received a number of notes from our widows following the Widows Banquet expressing their gratitude for what their Deacons do for them. Matt will be sending these out for all to view.
5. Hospital Visitation Team – Ron Shields: The team is very active. Still in need of additional Deacon volunteers to join the team, especially in downtown Ft. worth. Appreciate all the efforts from the men on the team.
6. Physical Services Team – David McReynolds: Things have been quiet over Christmas. Please continue to seek the needs of widows. No major projects identified at this time.
7. Lord's Supper Ordinance Administration Team – Dennis Lang: Next service will be January 22, 2023 at both services. Good response from everyone to fill all the spots. Saturday afternoon from 1:00-3:00 for the set up. The Lord's Supper will be done early in the service.
8. Baptism Ordinance Team – Kreg Bryant: Grateful to all who serve. Four baptisms are in progress, but none scheduled at this point.

Thank you to Lou Srencik for an excellent Widow's banquet. Many Thank you notes and notes of appreciation for a very special and well-done event.

Senior Pastor Keith Sanders:

1. **Budget:** Previous reports included being behind in giving, but November and December giving was outstanding and we now have \$310K surplus ahead of budget. We are fully funded in our reserves.
2. **New Deacon Nominations:** Announcements in February to open up nominations March 1st and go for 2 months. Any church member allowed to submit names for nomination. Nominees will then be contacted over the next few months to understand the role of the Deacon. Interviews will take place in June/July and then a 6-week training on Sunday afternoon probably every other week for those who want to proceed and qualify. The ordination council will be scheduled for November and then the ordination service on a Sunday evening in November. Try to complete the process in this calendar year and then start 2024 with the new Deacon class.
3. **Pastoral Apprentice:** Sterling Berdine will begin February 6th. Sterling is a seminary student and serving in the military reserves. He plans to become a full-time military chaplain. The position has been funded in the budget, but was not filled the last year.

Associate Pastor - Administration Scott Knox:

1. **Buildings/Grounds:** Multiple projects ongoing. External signage going up this week to complete that project. Completed the painting project on the exterior of the building this last week. Currently in the process of demoing the two houses purchased last year. Removed the concrete from a lot near 1709 from a previous lot purchased long ago. Backfilled with dirt. Beautifying that area to make the front of the church more appealing with grass and potentially additional landscaping in the future. Building & Grounds committee has met and will be removing some older trees and shrubbery around the church. They continue to do a great job on landscaping around the church. The contractor that applies the stucco on the east wall applied it incorrectly and will be coming back to redo a third of that wall. This will require an additional 2-6 additional weeks of work on the west side of the building. Please do not walk underneath the scaffolding.
2. **Roof:** The roof is pretty much complete with regards to replacement.
3. **North Lot:** Outdoor recreational area. Place for food storage and food prep for many family activities. The construction committee met and made a unanimous recommendation to move forward with Goff Construction as general contractor. The amount has not been finalized, but somewhere near \$4.5M. Hoping to lower that if possible. The church agreed to the current project with the Widow's Garden in the scope of the project, but this is no longer part due to the many variances associated. The church voted on the full project at a cost of \$3M. The construction committee agrees that this is the plan to move forward with even at the higher costs. There will be additional work on the actual costs and plan finalization which will be brought back for review by the Deacon body at the February meeting. Then will be taken back to the church for an additional vote based on the change in scope and increased costs. This project holds a lot of opportunity and is to be used as a tool for evangelism and discipleship.
4. **Finances:** Currently at 110.4% of budget to date. Incredibly blessed by \$3.2M in offerings received year to date. This results in \$309k in positive cash flow. Highest offering in history in December. \$300k was collected towards the Vision Fund last year without promotion or ask. We are very close to the full \$4.5M in cash based on Vision Fund, the \$1.7M balance, the cash

reserves and 2 lots that may be sold that are not in the long-term plans. HCA is also contributing \$500k in addition to the playground.

Associate Pastor – Family Ministry Tony Richmond:

1. Counseling: Praise for 3 couples in counseling that were together at church today. Please continue to pray for marriages and families in our church.
2. New Member process: Many new members recently. Many that come to the information breakfast are joining the church the next week. It has been helpful to meet with visitors and tell them about who we are and the expectations of membership. Very appreciative to all involved in the new membership team. Looking for additional counselors for new members at the end of the worship service. Tony and Lawrence will provide training for anyone interested.
3. Adult Bible study: Work through Acts in Sunday School. Looking forward to the book of Zechariah in March, April and May. Wednesday night Pillar of Truth has 122 attendees for the courses. Men's prayer breakfast on January 28 from 7:00-9:00 am in the Fellowship Hall. Please sign up in person, online or Realm. Marriage retreat on February 10-11 free of charge for those that are registered. Thanks to Finance Committee for providing resources for that.
4. Personnel: Continuing search for a Children's Minister. The VBS planning process is here and would like to have that person in place to lead preparations for VBS.

Associate Pastor – Missions & Evangelism Lawrence Duhon: Returned from Kenya trip with Gregory Baines a few days ago that went very well. Thankful for all prayers. Next Sunday night at 5:00 PM in room 139 will be an interest meeting for 4 upcoming mission trips (3 international, 1 domestic). Met with a group of 30 Indian believers that would like to use the Church for meeting together for prayer. Not a church plant, only wanting a place to meet for prayer. Many activities identified in the prayer guide associated with Missions and Evangelism Ministry to continue to pray for. Grateful for blessing in Missions giving that exceeded \$60k over previous giving in years past. Widows Garden continues to go well providing fresh produce for the widows and for those in nursing homes. Not able to provide actual numbers of widows helped by the garden but all widows who wanted help received help at least twice.

Minister – Senior Adults Mike Gonzales: Averaging about 75 at the GAP breakfast and game days, so will be moving to room 150 for more space.

Associate Pastor – Music Ministry Matt Perkinson: Appreciation for all the prayers and support to complete all the Christmas activities. This year added an addition Sacred Christmas on presentation to better serve the widows, shut ins and nursing home residents. People that have trouble getting out at night or required additional help were better served by an afternoon service. Thanks to our Deacon Led Prayer teams for encouraging and equipping the pastoral staff. Lord's Supper about 10 minutes into the service. January 29th is the next Celebration service to celebrate the new members. Going to Kenya with Mike Fauble in March with Onboard Ministries to teach and equip pastors on structuring corporate worship service. Worship Arts for Kids leading worship on March 26th. Spring musical planned for May 17th. Anyone wanting to act or participate please contact Stacey Porter. Student choirs continue to learn and praise and will lead corporate worship on April 2nd. June 10-15th Student Choir tour in Oklahoma City area. Good Friday service on April 7th and Easter Sunday on April 9th.

Worship Arts Intern - Landry Bennett: Been at FBCK about 5 months and very appreciative of the warm welcome. Participating in multiple ministries such as WAK music minister, working with Sanctuary Choir also helping with GAP breakfast and DNOW.

Deacon Chairman's Discussion – Matt Porter:

November 2022 Deacon Meeting Minutes - Chairman Matt Porter received a motion from Jim Bass and a second from Jim Flick to approve the November 2022 Deacon Meeting minutes. Passed unanimously.

Benevolence Fund Balances:

Deacon Benevolence = \$5,787

Deacon Widows Benevolence = \$4,478

Next meeting – February 19th at 4:00pm

Prayer Requests – Matt Porter:

Linda Crow – recovering from a Triple bypass. Bill Crow showed interest in becoming active in Church Sunday School

Barbara Wilson in the hospital

Kay Dixon fell and had to cancel a scheduled surgery. Waiting for MRI results.

Judy Johnson – surgery on Tuesday for a broken hip

Ladessa Forshee – had surgery Friday after a fall

Joe Harmon – Heart valve replacement this week

Jim and Susan Riddle – expecting first grandchild possibly today

Ellie Trantham heading back to Kenya for 3 months

Closing Prayer by Matt Porter

Respectfully submitted,

Guy Simpson, Vice-Chair Records