

First Baptist Church Keller Deacon Meeting April 16, 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 53 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. Accepting new Deacon nominations. Forms available in the foyer. Boxes located by Welcome Center, under the large screen in the foyer and on the 3rd floor. There is no online process.

Ministry Teams – GH Cain:

1. Hospital Visitation Team – Ron Shields: requested word or experiences from the team and 2 words were consistent from the people that are visited in the hospital – appreciation and gratitude. The consistent response from the team members for their experience was blessing. It is a blessing for the team to have the opportunity to minister to those in the hospital.
2. Widows Team – Don Johnston: Assigned 3 new widows since last meeting. There are 2 additional widows Don is contacting to understand their needs.
3. Physical Services Team – David McReynolds : The team is doing well with no issues or major jobs at this point. It is a blessing to help our widows out.
4. Lord's Supper Ordinance Administration Team – Dennis Lang: Appreciate the level of participation at the Good Friday Service. Next service will be July 16, 2023. There was a request to serve those in the nursery. We will try to do that next time.
5. Baptism Ordinance Team – GH Cain: 5 people baptized today. 4 of them were John and Jill Franklin's children. Things are going well with the team.
6. Sunday Prayer Team – GH Cain: Both services are going well and covered at this time. You are free to come at any time and pray with the pastor before the services.
7. New Member Candidate Visitation Team – GH Cain: Still fluid on the best way to reach new members regarding in person or telephone or other. Still reviewing that with the church staff. Some Deacons have had to step out, so looking for additional help on the team.
8. Deacon-Led Prayer Team – Chris Norris: The schedule is up to date on the website. There are some openings on the schedule for anyone willing to serve. Please copy Chris when responding to Matt Perkinson's email confirming availability. Next week is Ed and Dan.

Senior Pastor Keith Sanders:

1. Bible Drill: Some of the staff are helping with Bible Drill at the church today. Looking for director as Debra Stovall is stepping away after this year after leading for several years.

2. Children's ministry: Last month at the staff retreat Tony proposed a recommendation that Janet Meyers serve in the Children's minister position. This proposal was reviewed and approved at the last Personnel Committee. This will be announced to the congregation next week. Janet will be leading vacation Bible school this year. Janet is willing and passionate about leading this effort. As a result, Janet's administrative position will be open.
3. Interns: Interns are starting this summer. Ellie Trantham will be serving as the youth intern and Sterling Berdine, SW Seminary student, Army reservist chaplain candidate will be serving as the pastoral intern.
4. Director of Finance: Terri Dixon has served as director of Finance for many years and will be leaving June 20th. There are currently 3 staff (2 half-time and Terri full-time) working in the finance area to provide experience for continuity. We will be filling this position and have training from Terri prior to her departure.
5. Deacon Retreat: Deacon retreat will be a lot of focus on prayer but also discussing possibility of capital campaign. We have some preliminary work completed, but much of the planning is still to be done. Including the Deacon body to help pray and participate in the planning process. Through the years we have been able to meet our financial obligations even as the budgets have risen from \$2m to over \$6M. There is joy in generosity. Looking for Deacons to lead out in generosity and ask the Lord to help share the desire for generosity to our sphere of influence. We do not have debt, so have some flexibility. The planning is at the very beginning stages, but previously when originally proposing the north lot, the architect drafted out a preliminary elevation of a master plan to the west of the church. It included 60-70k feet of education and worship space. Things that remain to be decided are priority, timing and budget. The initial discussion at the retreat will just be the very early discussion.
6. Medical issues: Pastor's health issues trying some new medications prior to surgical path. Will probably have to have surgery in June or July, so plans are in plans for the staff to cover with any circumstances. Great and trustworthy staff in place to fill any needs.

Associate Pastor - Administration Scott Knox:

1. Medical: Scott will be undergoing minor back surgery this week.
2. Finances: Currently at 103% of budget to date. Anticipate meeting budget by year end. The next year budget will have a 5% increase. As prices and living expense have gone up, the committee focused on reducing the increase as much as possible. Be in prayer as this budget is an aggressive goal. \$300k in positive cash flow.
3. North Lot: Thank you to those offering help and suggestions on the plan. Incorporating one suggestion of Geotech reports to be completed on the areas where work will be done. This will give some lifetime guarantees. Encore will be meeting to find a solution on the electrical poles. Meeting with City on the plan for plan for abandonment of easements. Back on the agenda for P&Z. Had some staff issues with the City, but have been resolved, so plans are now moving forward.
4. IT: Installing new printers in the facility. Should be up and running.
5. Finance position: Currently taking resumes and would like to fill as soon as possible. Cindy Bradbury has been identified to back fill Janet Meyers administrative position. Once everything has cleared with Janet, then will transition. The preparation of the Prayer guide will be transitioning to Cindy as well as Sunday School attendance.
6. Buildings/Grounds: Thank you to LeAnn Hale for leading a volunteer crew to plant annuals in the beds near 1709.

Associate Pastor – Missions & Evangelism Lawrence Duhon:

1. Nursing home ministry: Currently ministering in 6 nursing homes which is down from 13 prior to covid. Planning to start back at another home on April 29th.
2. Widows Garden: Widows Garden continues to go well providing fresh produce for the widows and for those in nursing homes. Harvesting several times a week and looking at more efficient ways of distributing to the widows.
3. Missionary Home: Preparing house north of the church for missionaries. Renovated in 2019. Will host Mike’s daughter and son-in-law this summer. Able to fully furnish through generous donations prior to their arrival.
4. Mission trips: 4 planned for this summer. 1) June to Albania. 6-7 on the team working with young professionals on an evangelistic focus. 2-3) Leadership trainings in Romania and Kenya 4) Leadership training in Cincinnati, OH primarily with college students and vacation Bible school.

Minister – Senior Adults Mike Gonzales: The day trip to the Primera Iglesia Bautista de Keller was well attended and very enjoyable. Some of the GAP members plan to help in the upcoming Bautista VBS. May 4th breakfast will have a mariachi singer. Frank Lopez is a longtime friend, retired schoolteacher and dedicated Christian. GAP leadership met last week and looking at activities for the future. Next week’s Game Day is planned. Many will be on the trip to Branson.

Deacon Chairman’s Discussion – Matt Porter:

March 2023 Deacon Meeting Minutes - Chairman Matt Porter received a motion from Jon Taylor and a second from Perry Cox to approve the March 2023 Deacon Meeting minutes. Passed unanimously.

Benevolence Fund Balances:

Deacon Benevolence = \$4,750

Deacon Widows Benevolence = \$8,013

Next meeting – July (no June Meeting)

Deacon Retreat planned for May 5-6 (picnic Friday) will begin with a picnic. Sign-up genius has been sent out for providing attendance for food purchase. Bring yard games and corn hole. Saturday will meet per the discussed agenda at 8:30.

Prayer Requests – GH Cain:

Kirby – thanks for prayers for Kelli for her heart issues

Ruel Gardner – loss of his sister Lenta Zoe

Michael Waldrop – heart attack and will need time off. Jason will take over primary preaching responsibilities.

Carol Pruitt - Paxton Idell (7, San Antonio St Jude) had brain cancer similar to Ryland and was previously cleared and now has a new form of brain cancer

Scott Knox – outpatient back surgery this Wednesday

Closing Prayer by GH Cain

Respectfully submitted,
Guy Simpson, Vice-Chair Records