

First Baptist Church Keller Deacon Meeting September 10, 2023

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

Staff Members in Attendance on-campus

Tony Richmond, Scott Knox, Mike Gonzales, Lawrence Duhon, Matt Perkinson, Andrew Young, and Gregory Baines.

Deacons in Attendance

A total of 52 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. Kreg Bryant opened the meeting in prayer. The Deacon body broke into individual rooms to pray for each of the pastors.
2. New Deacon Ordination Process: Pastor Keith would normally lead the new Deacon nominees through a 6-month training regimen. However, due to his health issues, Pastor Keith has nominated Matt Porter to lead the training.

Ministry Teams – Matt Porter:

1. Hospital Visitation Team – Ron Shields: Troy King has joined the team. Blessing that not many members are in the hospital at this point.
2. Widows Team – Don Johnston: There have been 4 new widows to assign this month. Two widows were reassignments, 1 new widow and 1 newly widowed. Three of the 4 have been assigned and waiting on feedback from the 4th. A total of 156 widows are in the membership. 134 have been assigned, 13 have declined to have a Deacon and 9 that are not eligible due to age.
3. Physical Services Team – David McReynolds: No issues presently but have had a few in the last few months and appreciate all the help. Welcome to anyone who wants to join and help.
4. Lord's Supper Ordinance Administration Team – Dennis Lang: Next Lord's Supper will be observed on Oct 15th. The notice will go out on Sept 25th to give plenty of time to sign up. The committee is extremely faithful. Jim Roberts has agreed to lead the Ministry team next year.
5. Baptism Ordinance Team – Kreg Bryant: 2 baptisms this morning. Thanks to Tom Pessing for covering. The team tries to rotate the group through the 2 services. There is a joy to serving on the team and experiencing the parents reflecting on their children's experience or the joy in the person as they come up out of the water.
6. Sunday Prayer Team – Matt Porter: Both services are going well and covered at this time. If you would like to come and pray over the pastor prior to the services, contact Perry or Matt Porter.
7. New Member Candidate Visitation Team – Jim Sabey: Please contact Jim if you would like to join and reach out to new members that have joined. Introducing new members to the church, Sunday School, and the new member breakfast Tony hosts. The current list is out on the website updated through the last week of December.

8. Deacon-Led Prayer Team – Chris Norris: If you can help or will be out, please work with Chris to ensure coverage. There are a couple of spots needing to be filled. The schedule is up to date on the website up through Dec 31.

Associate Pastor – Missions & Evangelism Lawrence Duhon: There is a new young adult Bible study being held at the Tallgrass Village apartments led by Sterling Burdine. 95% of apartment residents are unchurched and trying to expand that mission field to other complexes in the future. Will be hearing in Sunday School classes reiterating the “Who is your one – next steps” evangelism strategy. Want to revive what was started prior to covid to bring people to faith locally. International Friends ministry in place with people to help reach out to those with English as a second language. Widows Garden and Nursing home ministries continue to do very well. More and more people are coming back to help in those ministries after covid. Two mission trips coming up in September. GH Cain and Paul Chastain are leaving for Kenya on Friday. The other to Nuevo Laredo, New Mexico.

Minister – Senior Adults Mike Gonzales: The Summer Bible Conference was held on September 8th. Had a great turn out and the audio can be provided to whoever would like it. The Fellowship in the Park was rescheduled to September 15th at 5:30 PM. Equipping your family expo in October – topics to be covered include estate planning, Medicare, and dementia.

Minister – Student Ministry Andrew Young: Janet Meyer’s interim title has been removed and she and her team are doing a fantastic job of outreach and connecting with Harvest on campus. She will be the full-time Director of Children’s Ministry. Faith Lunsford last week as Girl’s Minister was last Sunday. She will be missed, and we will be planning to fill her role. Matthew Bearden is doing a great job with Route56.

Associate – Student Ministry Matthew Bearden: Today is first day of Route56. Preparing Bible drill to start in October. Bible drill is currently being led by a team of volunteers.

Minister - Adults Gregory Baines: Had first meeting with the Director/Teachers and everything is going well. Plans to create a “Farm System” for new teachers starting October 1st. The Plan is to train and provide new teachers and directors out of this class. Pillar of Truth is going very well. Tony is teaching about church history and the attendance has been great.

Senior Pastor Keith Sanders: Pastor provided an update on his status and his appreciation for the prayers of the church and Deacon body. Continue to support the staff that has served so faithfully and completely during his absence. He will be back when he is ready but does not see returning prior to January.

Associate Pastor – Family Ministry Tony Richmond:

1. **New Sunday school year:** God’s sovereignty placed Gregory Baines in charge of adult ministry in just the right time. The new school year is going well and yet we are faced with a space problem. We need to find space for new classes and shuffle classes to ensure we have room. Started 1st Kings study in the fall with plans to start 2nd half of 1st Kings in the next quarter.
2. **Division of responsibilities:** Total team effort. Each of the pastors has taken on additional responsibilities to ensure nothing is missed. The staff works through a 6-week plan to provide

coverage on all future activities. Plans to continue working through the book of James until November and then will start working through Advent.

3. Worship livestream: Changing the worship livestream from 8:30 service to the 11:00 service. New cameras in the sanctuary that can provide different angles and the 8:30 service would give the staff a practice or trial run before going out live.
4. Looking for a way to provide access to the video from pastor Keith to the audience during the service. This did not go out in the live stream. Potentially providing a link to the weekly email.
5. If there are any needs that need any follow-up, please let the staff know.

Associate Pastor - Administration Scott Knox:

1. Finances: The church remains faithful in giving. However, there is currently a \$300k shortfall in giving vs ministry plan to date. Year to year giving comparison shows that the 2023 giving is \$24k over the giving last year. Normal cycle is to be a little behind early and then the giving catches up towards the end of the year and through end of fiscal year. Do not be too concerned. This is a ministry plan that was prayed through to serve the Lord with the funds He provides. If He chooses not to meet those needs, we are still blessed to serve him.
2. North Lot update: Provided a new rendering of the ongoing construction of the pavilion in the north lot. Looking forward to all the ministries that will take place. The pavilion and serving area is well equipped with amenities that will provide for fellowship needs. Security cameras will be in place and 6-foot gates will be locked to keep the pavilion and amenities safe. The pavilion will accommodate approximately 200 people.

Deacon Chairman's Discussion – Matt Porter:

August 2023 Deacon Meeting Minutes - Chairman Matt Porter received a motion from Jim Flick and a second from Buddy Linder to approve the August 2023 Deacon Meeting minutes. Passed unanimously.

Benevolence Fund Balances:

1. Deacon Benevolence = \$3364
2. Deacon Widows Benevolence = \$9918

Next Deacon meeting: October 8th at 4:00 PM.

Prayer Requests – Matt Porter:

Cecil Hill – Karen Jordan has a 12y/o great grandson (Lucas) with brain cancer. Pray for good result post-surgery.

Kreg Bryant - Billy Huber coming home after 100 days in the hospital.

Suzy Hannas – father passed away last Friday.

GH Cain and Paul Chastain – heading to Kenya. Pray for some visa issue resolution.

Marylin Alderink – stage 4 kidney failure and trouble with her legs and walking

Robert Gopffarth – FCA meeting at Fossil Ridge High School. Pray for students.

Lynn Carpenter – nephew Jeremiah Phillips' bone marrow transplant. Wisdom on how to minister to the family.

Closing Prayer by Richard Harris

Respectfully submitted,
Guy Simpson, Vice-Chair Records