

First Baptist Church Keller Deacon Meeting August 9th, 2026

Meeting was conducted on-campus at First Baptist Church Keller (FBCK) with a Zoom option as well.

Staff Members in Attendance on-campus

Keith Sanders, Mike Gonzales, Tony Richmond, Lawrence Duhon

Deacons in Attendance

A total of 55 Deacons signed in on-campus and/or attended over Zoom.

Call to Order and Welcome Remarks

- Chairman Jim Sabey called the meeting to order and opened with a prayer. He then asked for pastoral updates.

Updates from Pastors/Staff in attendance

Senior Pastor Keith Sanders:

- Pastor Keith started with his update. Pastoral Staff recently had a retreat off campus. Time spent in prayer, discussing various reports on areas of the church, and seeking God.
 - 3rd service. Had been discussion about starting a 3rd Sunday service in Jan 2027. Now with Pastor Scott gone and with the need to update several things in the Gym to accommodate a 3rd service, plans are to push back to start of Aug 2027 at earliest. Pastors are working with the Long Range Planning Committee on this.
 - Reorganization of staff. Pastors will give updates soon to the Personnel committee about filing open staff positions.
 - Fiscal year/Budget. Praise the Lord for a good month of July. In the past, July and August have seen somewhat limited giving but this has been better the last couple of years. Now giving seems to be spread out throughout the year.
 - Next week is Promotion Sunday. Last year we had 1261 persons in Sunday School (the most since before COVID). Trying to surpass that number this year. Pastor Keith noted that since last year, he and wife Melissa are directors of a Sunday School class that is averaging 25 to 30 people weekly. Many of these were people that did not previously attend Sunday School here.
 - Pastor Keith shared that the sermons for the next 3 Sundays will be focusing on church membership. The first will be “what is it?”. The second will be “who needs it?”. The third will be “how we do it here at First Baptist Keller.” This third one will be on Celebration Sunday.
 - Pastor Keith then opened up the floor to questions from the deacons in attendance:
 - Lou Srencik asked if Pastor Keith could give an update on construction on the north lot on campus. In response to this, Pastor Keith mentioned that there was problems with the soil in the north lot. Soil was poor and leading to buckling of pavement leading to tripping hazards. Construction team put in “stabilizers” in the soil. They will be pouring concrete again soon. The old dirt is currently in the west lot.

- Ricky Baker asked if Pastor Keith to give additional details on the reassignment of duties of the pastors. In response to this, Pastor Keith stated that any decisions need to go to the Personnel Committee first.
- No other questions were voiced during this time by the deacons so Pastor Keith ended his report.

Associate Pastor – Family Ministries Tony Richmond

- Pastor Tony reported that we will be starting the new church year soon.
- Sunday School. Reported that there was a “kick-off” meeting with Sunday School teachers yesterday. Discussed curriculum and logistics for the upcoming year. There are still opportunities to work with students in Sunday School.
- There were 7 in New Member Orientation this morning.
- This Sunday will be Promotion Sunday. There will be a Ministry Fair that day as well with 25 different ministries on display. New members will be encouraged to get plugged in.
- Wednesday night activities will start on August 19. Pastor Keith will be leading a Bible Survey and Pastor Tony will start Pillar of Truth as well.
- August 30 will be the next Celebration Sunday. There will be some reports. There will be some testimonies. There will be times of prayer for our church.
- HCA resumes class on Wednesday. Pastor Tony will be having weekly meetings with them.
- North Lot. Concrete will be poured this week if the soil is good. Then plan that one week later will be able to use the area.
- Real estate. Lots are for sale on Ruby Street. Some negotiation with potential buyers as the Long Range Planning Committee does not see these lots to be in our long term campus plan any longer.
- Question from Ed Glasgow asking if Pastor Tony could share an update on the Spiritual Discipline Assessment test discussed at prior meeting. Pastor Tony reported that they are looking at a 50 question survey. They are testing the questions regarding what is a disciple. Plan to help people of the church see in which areas they need to grow. Would then use that information to target the offerings of our church toward areas in which the person showed to be deficient. Plan to test this in 3 Sunday School classes this fall to “work out the bugs” before rolling out to the rest of the church.

Student Minister Andrew Young

- Pastor Andrew was not present while at a student event.

Associate Pastor – Missions & Evangelism Lawrence Duhon:

- Pastor Lawrence then gave his report.
- The missionary teams from the trips to Romania, Guatemala and Alaska have returned since our last meeting. Over those trips many were converted to follow Christ.
- Next week will have the Ministry Fair. Looking for helpers with the Connections Team, Ushers and other local missions.
- Nursing home. Pastor Lawrence received an email from the daughter of a woman who is in one of the local nursing homes. She appreciated the ministry that is done there for the residents.

- The new Share Jesus without Fear class will be starting soon. It will be led by Zane Harper at 4pm on Wednesdays for a total of 4 weeks.

Senior Adult Minister Mike Gonzales:

- Pastor Mike mentioned that Senior Adult ministries are ongoing.
- GAP (God's Active People) want to gather, connect and serve. Going well. Deacons were instructed to see the GAP brochure for details.
- Pastor Mike gave a proposal to the GAP Breakfast team to have the Gap Breakfast and Devotional on the 1st Monday of month followed by the GAP Breakfast, Devotional, and GameDay on the 3rd Monday of the month.
- October 11th will be a Share Sunday. There will be some prayer and testimonies.
- Upcoming events include a Planning with Purpose conference in addition to a Thanksgiving Celebration and a Christmas Celebration.

Associate Pastor -- Worship Matt Perkinson:

- Pastor Matt was not in attendance.

Prayer Time with Pastors & Staff and Focused Deacon Prayer

- Deacons then broke into rooms to pray in small groups for the pastors. Those deacons online prayed for the pastors that were not in attendance.
- Deacons regathered following the prayer time.
- Ed Glasgow then lifted a prayer for the new church year/ promotion Sunday. He prayed for the Lord to provide the additional volunteers that are needed.
- Russ Adams voiced a prayer for the FBC Keller church body and asking for unity of the church.

Ministry Team Updates – Steven Cooks:

Steven kicked off the ministry team updates, and each Team Leader that was present provided updates for the respective ministry team that they lead.

1. Sunday Prayer Team – Perry Leonard: Asked deacons to stay in prayer for FBCK pastors. Thanks given for those members of the team. 830am service prayer time meets across from the worship center (sanctuary) while the 11am service prayer time meets on the 3rd floor in the conference room. Need 1 team member to fill in to pray with pastor prior to 11am service so request was made again during this meeting.
2. Deacon-Led Prayer Team – David Wimberley: All deacons welcome to join in on the rotation. No new updates. David thanked deacons for working to find coverage for themselves if unable to pray during their assigned week.
3. New Member Candidate Visitation Team – Paul Chastain: Schedule posted on Deacon website for 2026. Paul gave a reminder of the responsibilities of team members. Deacons asked to Email back to office as well as Paul about how the visit went. Deacons should contact Paul if they would like to be added to the team. Paul will update schedule for rest of the year.
4. Widows Team – Don Johnston: Steven presented for Don. Thanks were given for deacons caring for widows. There is a new widow with the death of Eddie Carroll. Don will contact this widow soon.

5. Lord's Supper Ordinance Administration Team – Nate Davis: Nate stated it is a privilege to serve. Deacons reminded that the next Lord's Supper will be on August 16. Prep will be on Saturday August 15. Additional deacons are still needed to fill the assigned spots to avoid asking deacons to serve in both services. Nate also reported that the schedule for the fall of 2026 has been altered and the church is expected to observe the Lord's Supper on November 8.
6. Hospital Visitation Team – Ron Shields: One person needed to cover the downtown Fort Worth hospitals. Ron reported that serving on this team brings glory to God, blessing to the person being visited and blessing to the deacon serving.
7. Widowers Team – Scotty Mullins: Ministry going well. The team is accepting additional volunteers.
8. Physical Services Team – David Kennedy: David reports there is an outstanding job which involves laying sod for Carl + Becky Wilson but this was delayed by rainy season and now by extreme heat. David is working to schedule this for next Spring. One widow had a leak in the septic system so company was called out to fix this. There is a fence repair for another widow that will be scheduled soon. Taking other deacons that want to join.
9. Baptism Ordinance Team – Kreg Bryant: Steven presented for Kreg. Scheduling 2 baptisms. Praying for additional baptisms with the upcoming Back to School season.

Deacon Chairman remarks from Jim Sabey

- July meeting minutes were approved unanimously with one change to accurately reflect the name of a deacon that had voiced prayer request.
- Reminder given of the upcoming Lord's Supper on August 16.
- Reminder to check in with our widows. Widows banquet coming up on December 5. FBCK youth will lead in music during the banquet this year.
- Jim noted there have been a few recent email issues. Deacons advised to contact one of the deacon officers if have not been receiving the weekly deacon widow birthday email and other deacon emails.
- Carl Wilson may resume physical therapy soon. He may need additional help with rides to therapy so deacons were asked to volunteer if able.
- Benevolence Fund amounts:
 - Widows - \$37,316.86
 - Deacon - \$32,725.16
- Next meeting is September 13, 2026, at 4pm in FBCK room 245.

Prayer / Praise Requests – Chris Norris:

- Bob Carlton. Jan's mom (Shirley Harris) in Albuquerque has had recent falls and declining health. They are going out to visit her. Prayers requested for their travels, for Shirley's health, and prayers for Bob and Jan to be able to honor Shirley during this time.
- Matt Krause dealing with kidney stones.
- Cecil Hill reported that Bob and Joyce Mayes have declining health and are moving to assisted living.
- David Kennedy. Expecting first grandbaby this week. Prayers for safe delivery.
- Danny Reynolds reported that Ed and Kathy Arner's 26 year old grandson unexpectedly passed away recently. Prayers for the family.

- Paul Chastain voiced a prayer for Cliff Dalton as he is to undergo a cardiac ablation procedure on Friday. Deacons laid hands on Cliff to pray for him.
- Lou Srencik reported that Gary Bowling is in hospital for blood clots and weakness. Moved to rehab with plan to improve strength so that he can then go back to hospital for a back surgery. Prayer for his recovery and strength.
- Ricky Baker voiced prayer for his wife and her cataract surgery.
- Ricky Baker gave an update that Kirby Kercheval is doing better after surgery and is already back to work. He is still waiting on results of the biopsy report.
- Cecil Hill mentioned that John Pickett is looking for work. He is still dealing with the after effects of his stroke so that is limiting his ability to work.
- Jim Sabey mentioned that Ann Tidwell fell and hit her head. She is in hospital now. Prayer for healing and for her upcoming move.
- Jim Flick mentioned Paul Coronna had carpal tunnel surgery. Surgery was successful but he is dealing with post operative pain that is impacting sleep. Prayer for relief.
- Jim Flick reported that Pastor Lawrence's wife, Eva, is suffering from vertigo and is supposed to start school next week. Prayers for relief from vertigo and for the upcoming school year.
- Buddy Brown asked for prayer for his granddaughter, Isabel, who is in rebellion. She has met a man online and in Nevada with meet him. There are forest fires in the area for prayer for her safety as well as her spiritual awakening. Buddy also voiced a praise that his son in Spokane had his home spared from the forest fires.
- Frank Shelton gave praise that his daughter Cassidy is pregnant and asked for prayer for health and safety for her and the baby during the pregnancy.
- Ron Shields reported that Martha Sibley passed away. Prayers for her family.

Closing Prayer voiced by Chris Norris. After this, the meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,
Chris Norris, Vice-Chair Records