

First Baptist Church Keller Deacon Meeting

November 9th, 2025

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, Scott Knox, Mike Gonzales, Andrew Young, Lawrence Duhon

Deacons in Attendance

A total of 63 Deacons signed in on-campus and/or attended over Zoom.

Call to Order and Welcome Remarks

- Chairman Guy Simpson called the meeting to order and opened with a prayer.
- Deacons then broke into rooms to pray in small groups for the pastors & staff in-person and on-line attendees prayed for staff not able to make the meeting
- Once everyone was back together, Keith Arnett voiced a prayer for the widows and widowers of our church & Steve Burns voiced a prayer for the deacons, church body health and unity.

Ministry Team Updates – Chris Norris:

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

1. Widows Team – Don Johnston: Widows banquet on December 6th, remember to confirm with your assigned widow(s) if they need transportation to church. Robbin Robinson and Linda Brock are recently widowed and will be assigned soon.
2. Widowers Team – Scotty Mullins: New widower needing to be assigned, Mark Hanes. Reach out to Scotty if you would like to be assigned to Mark. Reminder of Wreaths Across America on December 13th. If you'd like to donate money for a wreath or volunteer, please reach out to Scotty.
3. Hospital Visitation Team – Ron Shields: Fortunately, there are not many church members in the hospital recently.
4. Deacon-Led Prayer Team – Steven Cooks: All deacons welcome to join in on the rotation. The 2026 schedule will be coming out soon.
5. New Member Candidate Visitation Team – Paul Chastain: Email was sent out previously by Paul requesting if existing team members want to remain & also for asking if there were additional deacons that would like to be added. Schedule for 2026 will be worked on soon.
6. Baptism Ordinance Team – Kreg Bryant: Thanks to the members of the team and for supporting all the baptisms this year.
7. Sunday Prayer Team – Perry Leonard: 830 service is covered well with deacons participating. 11am there is availability for more deacons to participate. 830am service prayer time meets across from the worship center (sanctuary) while the 11am service prayer time meets on the 3rd floor in the pastor study. A reminder by Perry that all deacons should be praying for the services on Sunday mornings.
8. Physical Services Team – David McReynolds: Reminder to check in on your assigned widows and ask if they need anything and are also ready for winter cold weather.

9. Lord's Supper Ordinance Administration Team – Nate Davis: Reminder of next Lord's Supper on January 25th, 2026 with prep the day before on January 24th. Invite will be going out in early January for signup.

Updates from Pastors/Staff in attendance

Senior Pastor Keith Sanders:

- Pastor Keith attended the veteran's luncheon and commented it was very nice.
- Pastor shared a few statistics of attendance that we are averaging 1120 in Sunday School through the first 12 weeks of the new church financial year.
- Tremendous quarter of giving for the 1st quarter of the new church financial year – praise the Lord.
- The staff are doing very well with managing the church resources and the budget.
- The Long Range Planning Committee met the hour before the deacon meeting and are discussing seating options. A 3rd Sunday service is in discussions as well and will be discussed in future deacon meetings.
- There is a desire to have more Sunday Schools rotate sitting in the Loft to open space in the worship center (sanctuary) for people visiting the church.

Associate Pastor – Administration Scott Knox:

- Staff update – Matthew Kennedy recently hired part time to support Rob for audio/visual needs.
- November giving has started well above expectations – praise the Lord.
- Regarding the recent Government shutdown, if we know of people affected, FBCK has funds available to help.
- Facilities update –
 - new chairs and ~80 HCA students helped carry them into the various rooms around church.
 - Safety bollards will be installed at the main entrances (North & South ends) of the church
 - Concrete issues around Fellowship Park are being addressed and worked on.
 - Windows around the campus will be washed

Senior Adult Minister – Senior Adults Mike Gonzales:

- GAP (God's Active People) are doing well.
- Prelude to Christmas trip on December 15th with 2 buses full of participants
- December 5th – free event for the entire church with Dennis Swanberg show

Associate Pastor – Missions & Evangelism Lawrence Duhon:

- Outreach events are upcoming at Beautiful Feet over the holidays and Dan Trantham is traveling for On Board Ministry.

Minister – Students Andrew Young

- DNOW (Discipleship NOW) upcoming in January and will be on the FBCK campus with Tyler Sulfridge and Gregory Baines (both former FBCK staff members) leading and preaching in the Sunday services as well.

Deacon Chairman closing remarks from Guy Simpson

- Voting for the next deacon officers starting in 2026 was held with a unanimous yes vote for the new officers as follows:
 - Jim Sabey : Chairman (this is a 2-year position)
 - Chris Norris : Vice-Chairman Records (this is a 1-year position)
 - Steven Cooks : Vice-Chairman Ministry Teams (this is a 1-year position)
- October meeting minutes were approved unanimously with no changes requested.
- Benevolence Fund amounts:
 - Widows - \$3,241
 - Deacon - \$2,575
- Widows banquet cost will be \$30 cash or check per deacon to cover deacon, spouse & widow(s) assigned.
- Next meeting is January 11th, 2026 at 4pm in rm 245.

Prayer / Praise Requests – Jim Sabey:

- David Kennedy voiced praise for his son recently being hired at FBCK to support Rob with audio/visual needs of FBCK
- Jon Taylor and praise for their new grandson
- Praise for Kelli Kercheval and recovery from recent surgery
- Kirby Kercheval's widow, Sarah Willis recently had surgery
- Cliff Dalton has a follow-up doctor's appointment soon from recent surgery
- Ron Shields sister-in-law has complications from a recent fall
- Carl Wilson is recovering from a recent back surgery
- Dwayne Weaver has surgery scheduled to fix a previous surgery
- Alison Hale has surgery scheduled to remove a tumor that is in her spinal cord
- Betty & Woody Harrison with illness issues and being in nursing home

Closing Prayer by Jim Sabey.

Respectfully submitted,
Jim Sabey, Vice-Chair Records