

First Baptist Church Keller Deacon Meeting

April 12th, 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, Andrew Young, Lawrence Duhon, Tony Richmond

Deacons in Attendance

A total of 62 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.
 - Easter service went well. There was a large number of attendees in Sunday School. Good Friday service was good as well.
 - Budget has been worked on for next year. Giving reported to still be good and church is about \$300,000 ahead of budget at this time. The new budget will have approx. a 4% increase from last year so will be about \$6 million in total.
 - Long Range Planning Committee. Discussing church planting and details of this. Deacons asked to be in prayer for this. Also discussing the need to add back a 3rd service on Sunday mornings soon.
 - Noted that there were a lot of people in the new member orientation meeting today.

Associate Pastor – Administration Scott Knox:

- Pastor Scott was not in attendance while attending to a family emergent situation.

Associate Pastor – Adult Discipleship Tony Richmond

- Pastor Tony discussed multiple issues.
- There were 106 men in the “How to Lead Your Family” class last week. Praise the Lord. He is helping men prepare to lead their families in a biblical way.
- Good group in New Members Orientation this morning. Still seeing people come to our church from other faith backgrounds. This is a reason to continue with the church membership process to ensure that new members affirm belief in the Baptist Faith & Message along with our church’s mission statement.
- Discipleship plan. Tony will miss the deacon’s retreat next month so was given some additional time to discuss the Discipleship Plan being worked on by church. The Family Discipleship team meets each Monday and has been discussing this plan.
 - Intentionality felt to be very important.

- Tony noted that there is no longer an “Associate Pastor of Discipleship” so the process of discipleship falls under all pastors and all areas of church ministry. He noted an idea from members regarding “How is the church going to help me grow spiritually in Christ?” A follow up question—“How do I know if I am growing in Christ?”
- The Process would include 4 parts: 1)Evangelism. Reaching people for Christ in our community. 2)Growth including personal, spiritual growth which includes bible study, prayer, service in church. Helping people grow and then holding them accountable for growing. 3)Community. Coming together as a body in corporate worship and other things. 4)Multiply. True disciples are not faithful until they are making disciples.
- How do we measure discipleship?
 - Attendance. Not optimal way but easy to use.
 - Members at times equate busyness with spiritual maturity though this is not always the case. Staff at times focuses on measuring programs rather than forming people. Churches at times confuse momentum with movement.
 - Discipleship should be measured by transformation, not participation.
- Tony gave some additional details on several of the areas of focus.
 - Evangelism.
 - Plan a BiAnnual culture of Evangelism and Evangelism Training. Measure those completing this training.
 - Plan quarterly outreach/ evangelism event exposure training and community activity. Follow percentage of those that complete the class and move on to this step.
 - Develop social media evangelism strategy and implementation.
 - Develop personal assessment for the self-reporting of members who have shared the gospel and invited new members to church.
 - Grow.
 - Community.
 - Track attendance.
 - Audit classes.
 - Plan for tracking service of members within the church.
 - Plan to “tweak” the All-Church Members Meeting.
 - Track giving.
 - Plan on how to handle church discipline.
 - Multiply.
 - Develop bi-annual disciple maker training course.
 - Develop specific plan and opportunities for discipleship group to serve together on mission.
- Question was asked by Dan Trantham on whether these areas of focus are intended to replace the “Pillars” of our church established by the last Vision Team meetings? Or do these areas of focus “fit in” to the Pillars? Tony replied that this process is going to take time to work out details and to be able to answer this. He reported that it would be a collaboration between pastors and church leaders and this process would be discussed.

- There will be a powerpoint sent out for review with slides that Tony presented. Questions will be entertained about this process moving forward.

Minister – Students Andrew Young

- Music & Missions trip. 3/13 through 3/19 to Denver area. 118 students and sponsors went to Colorado with Pastor Matt and Andrew. Students lead worship and worked at various ministry sites. It was a good time of student growth. Since that trip, the 11th grade class has gone out to canvas the local neighborhood around the church.
- Recently had good turnout for Student Serve Day. Students serving at various locations in church and at the homes of several of the church widows.
- Deacons were asked to be in prayer for the following upcoming events which include Graduate Recognition, Vacation Bible School, Youth Camp in Arkansas.
- A question was asked regarding how many youth are in the program at FBCK. Andrew said there are approx. 150 students between 7th and 12th grade. He reports that he has seen quite a bit of spiritual growth among this group over the last year.

Associate Pastor – Missions & Evangelism Lawrence Duhon:

- Republic of Georgia. Lawrence, Bobby and Robin are back from travel to Republic of Georgia from 3/18 through 3/27. Ministered to Iranian citizens who are typically vacationing in Georgia. They were able to communicate with over 100 Iranians and were able to share the gospel.
- Emerald Hills nursing home. Need help to partner with Joe Weibel at 10am on Saturdays. Asked to contact Pastor Lawrence or Joe if any of the deacons are able to assist.
- Lawrence will be traveling to Brazil to train native Brazilians to go to minister to the indigenous people groups in remote areas as outsiders are typically not allowed into these areas.

Senior Adult Minister – Senior Adults Mike Gonzales:

- GAP (God's Active People) want to gather, connect and serve. Going well.
- DASH Class. Continues to meet. Going well.
- 5th Thursday Adventure. Lunches provided. Seniors are encouraged to bring friends.
- May 8th—Be on lookout for a Patriotic Celebration. In FBCK Gym. Open to all.

Associate Pastor—Worship Matt Perkinson:

- Pastor Matt was not in attendance due to student choir rehearsal.

Prayer Time with Pastors & Staff and Focused Deacon 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, Steven Cooks prayed for each of the ministry teams and the people they are ministering to. He reminded the deacons of Col 3:17... to do our work for the Lord.

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. Steven asked deacons to be in prayer for where they may step in to help.

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 pastor study. Need 2 team members to fill in to pray with pastor prior to 11am service. Perry asked all deacons to assist in helping guests find spots during services as they fill up.
2. Deacon-Led Prayer Team – David Wimberley: All deacons welcome to join in on the rotation. Inform David if you are not able to pray in your assigned spot so a replacement can be found. The 2026 schedule is on the deacon website.
3. New Member Candidate Visitation Team – Paul Chastain: Schedule posted on Deacon website for first half 2026. Paul gave a reminder on 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.
4. Widows Team – Don Johnston: Thanks given for deacons caring for widows. Don assigned 4 widows recently. The church is now up to 150 widows with 137 of those assigned. Don mentioned that the Youth Service Day was able to serve 6 widows. Deacons were encouraged to speak with their widows often.
5. Lord's Supper Ordinance Administration Team – Nate Davis: Deacons thanked for helping with the Lord's Supper on Good. Next service will be July 19.
6. Hospital Visitation Team – Ron Shields: Buddy Brown just volunteered to help this team so now need 1 additional member to cover Alliance hospitals and the Rehabs in Keller + Southlake.
7. Widowers Team – Scotty Mullins: Ministry going well. Those participating say they are getting a lot out of the experience. Need additional volunteers. Scotty mentioned that the widower's team now has some money to host a widower's event.
8. Physical Services Team – David Kennedy: Team completed two projects recently. Rain diverter on roof for a widow. Another had fence pickets and post replaced. Taking other deacons that want to join.
9. Baptism Ordinance Team – Kreg Bryant: 7 recent baptisms of Vietnamese church on Easter. Praying for additional baptisms in 2026 including the kids that will be ministered to by VBS in June.

Deacon Chairman remarks from Jim Sabey

- March meeting minutes approved unanimously with no changes requested.
- Reminder given of the upcoming Deacon Retreat. Friday May 1, BBQ dinner, entire family invited. Saturday May 2, Deacons only as will discuss deacon business portion of retreat.
- Reminder given that the Deacon calendar is on the FBCK Deacon website.
- Jim gave an update on how to use the Sales Tax Exemption form if doing work on behalf of the church. Church would rather have this filled out in advance rather than trying to reimburse sales tax. The Tax Exempt form has been placed on the deacon website.
- Nate Davis, as a representative of the finance committee, gave a brief update on the new ministry plan. The plan that has been presented will likely be the final one outside of 1-2 small

possible adjustments. There will be a Q&A session on Sunday 5/3/26 at 4p in Room 136. The church will vote on this at the Wednesday 5/20/26 business meeting in worship center.

- Benevolence Fund amounts:
 - Widows - \$21,241.39
 - Deacon - \$18,970.62
- Next meeting is May 2nd, 2026 at deacon retreat.

Prayer / Praise Requests – Chris Norris:

- Buddy Linder voiced prayer for Pastor Scott Knox whose mother is in hospice in Houston.
- Jim Flick mentioned that Ruell Garner was dealing with pain and trouble from a kidney stone. He is now home and is recovering.
- Dr Jed Ford mentioned Marth Holland fractured her leg about 3 weeks ago. She had to go back into ER with bladder pain and found to have sepsis due to urinary tract infection. She is admitted at Texas Health HEB Hospital.

Closing Prayer by Chris Norris.

Respectfully submitted,
Chris Norris, Vice-Chair Records