



First Baptist
Griffin

A community of grace.

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August 31, 2022

Dear Church Family,

As you have heard us announce in services and online, we will hold a church conference at the end of each worship service on Sunday, September 11, 2022. The topics to be covered in the upcoming conference include:

- Approval of recommendation for the Nominating Committee,
- Nominations for new Deacons, and
- Approval of the joint recommendation from the Properties Team, Finance Committee, and the Deacons to purchase a new church van.

A digital ballot will be available for members who choose to attend the service virtually. Please look for that ballot in the regular Sunday morning email.

Should you have any questions, please feel free to contact Butch Sutton (chair of Deacons), or me, and we will be happy to explain anything that is unclear.

Grace and Peace,

Steven Norris
Senior Pastor

Motion #1: The following names are being put forth as nominees to serve on the Nominating Committee, beginning immediately.

- Leslie Benefield (2022-2024)
- Tommy Jones (2022-2024)
- Curtis Hardwick (2022-2024)
- Doug Holberg (2022-2023)

Per the By-Laws of FBC Griffin, these individuals are nominated and recommended by a committee consisting of the Senior Pastor, Deacon Officers, and two at-large church members. Each nominee has been contacted and all have agreed to serve in this capacity.

Motion #2: Please nominate up to nine (9) individuals to serve as “active deacons” starting on January 1, 2023.

Eight (8) of these individuals will serve a full four-year term. One (1) individual will serve a two-year term that was vacated due to a resignation.

The following qualifications and guidelines for deacons are stipulated in our church By-Laws:

- No person shall be elected as a deacon, trustee or the chief leader of the educational or service organizations who has not been an active member of this Church for at least one year preceding the election.
- Any person elected to any position of leadership in the Church, or its organizations shall be reasonably regular in attendance at the worship services of the Church and demonstrate a cooperative attitude with the program adopted by the Church.
- Deacons shall guard zealously the unity of spirit within the Church; oversee the moral, spiritual and temporal welfare of the Church; minister to the needs of Church members; lead in worship; model Christ-likeness; assure that the will of the Church is accomplished; administer the financial affairs of the Church; and act for the Church in emergency matters between Church conferences. Their decisions shall always be subject to the affirmation of the Church in conference.

Motion #3: The Properties Committee, Finance Committee, and Deacons jointly move to approved the purchase of a new 14-passenger Ford Transit van with a high roof and extended rear cargo area, modified to have a wide step and two handrails at the side door. The total cost of this van will not exceed \$65,000.00. The people mover would also be sold and the proceeds applied to the final cost of the van.

First Baptist has multiple groups that use the van(s) on a regular basis: XYZ, Youth Ministry, Children's Ministry, Scouts, Weekday Program, etc. The people mover has been unreliable in recent years, needing to be jumped off on a regular basis and leaving groups stranded on a couple of occasions. A subcommittee was appointed by the Properties Committee consisting of Richard Riley, Bob Long, Seth Brown, Martin Huckabee, Peggy Smith, and Ronnie Hopkins to research the needs of the church and report back with a recommendation.

After determining the current needs related to van usage, this committee considered possible solutions. These options included purchasing a new people mover, purchasing a new van, purchasing a used van, renting vans as needed, etc. They concluded that, given the current needs of the church, selling the people mover and purchasing a modified van that would be a little easier to drive would be the best solution. Ordering a new van will take approximately 6-8 months until arrival. Given the current used car market, it was determined that a used van would cost as much as \$20,000 more than ordering a new one at this time. Since replacing the people mover is not an emergency, we believe that it is worth waiting a few months for a new van.

The Finance Committee has identified multiple areas from which funding for the van can come. However, they did not want to commit to one of those sources of funding until we had a final contract price for the van, a selling price for the people mover, and a final cost on a storage location for both vans. The Properties Committee has committed to determining a price for the people mover & giving church members the first chance to buy it. In the spirit of transparency and good stewardship, the Finance Committee will report back to the church once the sales price and source of funding has been finalized.

This proposal was approved by both the Finance Committee and the Deacons in their August meetings.