

CHURCH COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES

The Church Council of First Baptist Church of Midland, Texas met for its regular meeting on Monday, December 14th, 2020. Members present: Scott Daw, Michelle Cobb, Clark Moreland, Ralph Lea, Mark McKinney, Randy Thornton, Patrick Mayers, Wilma Roberts, Don Hale, Mike Mayer, Berry Simpson, Landon Merritt, Jimmy Bridges, Flo Akintunji, Jan West, Linda Freeman, Wes Lewis, and Kristal Cotton.

Staff members present: Dr. Darin Wood and LaNelle

Moe Bomer, candidate for Business Administrator was present.

Chairman Clark Moreland called the meeting to order at 7:00PM. Jimmy Bridges opened the meeting with prayer.

Berry Simpson made a motion to approve minutes from November 16th. Don Hale seconded the motion. The minutes from the November 16th, 2020 Council Meeting were approved.

REPORTS

Senior Pastor - Darin Wood

Dr. Wood introduced Moe Bomer and asked him to tell about his current service and the Win Shape Foundation.

Mr. Bomer described his current service and past ministries he has been involved with. He answered the questions of Church Council members, including his knowledge and experience with financial operations. Mr. Bomer gave his testimony.

The decision was made to postpone the Lord's supper at this time.

An additional Christmas Eve service at 6 pm was scheduled. There were 150 people on the waiting list to be served first and then registration on Wednesday.

Dr. Wood attended a meeting with the mayor and 35 other pastors about Covid 19. The request was to pare back events.

Covid 19 protocol remains a moving target.

Cares act provided 10 days of Covid leave. This needs to be reset on January 1st to protect our staff. Incidents of exposure to Covid continue and this allows for reporting and quarantining without loss of time or pay.

Personnel Committee approved resetting the 10 days of Covid Leave.

January 10th will be the date for Mr. Bomer to come in view of a call.

Our 135 year anniversary is January 10th.

George Koehl plaque will be unveiled on January 10th.

Deacons - Wes Lewis

Deacon body met on Dec 7^{th.} Ministry looks different for the deacon body. Family assistance is picking up due to Covid . 18 new families for deacon family ministry.



CHURCH COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES

Committee Reports

Chairman's Report - Clark Moreland

Mr. Moreland discussed sending Christmas cards to staff, encouraging and expressing appreciation for them. Personnel Committee members signed up. Church Council members interested in sending them should sign up. Regular Church conference will be on January 24th. Prayer meeting on January 11th at 5:45. Church Council will be held on January 18th.

Family Ministry - Ginger Schantz

No report

Finance Committee - Mark McKinney

Mr. McKinney presented the November Financial Report. Gross receipts for November were \$636,441 which was \$35,846 over budget for the month. Total expenditures for November were \$428,920. There was an operating gain of \$207,521 for the month of November. At the end of November, the general fund balance was \$893,788 and the capital funds available for projects were \$892,952. Total church assets at the end of November were \$11,242,418. Mr. McKinney reviewed the designated account activity. A motion to accept the monthly financial report passed unanimously.

General Nominating - Randy Thornton

Met Saturday December 12th email meeting to approve J.D. Faircloth to become Department director for Thomas Department. Motion to accept from the committee passed unanimously.

Maintenance and Expansion - Don Hale

No meeting but Maintenance and Expansion has been very busy since the approval of the Surplus. Jim Hanson and his department are very busy implementing many of the surplus requests. Progress continues on both Kent Street houses as well as on other maintenance issues. Next meeting Jan 13^{th.}

Membership - Ralph Lea Chair,

Membership will do an outreach project to shut ins and nursing home residents. The list was obtained from James Erwin. Each committee member will write to approximately 9 people. The Council reviewed the additions and losses to the membership. The additions to the church totaled 3 in November by statement, with 6 membership losses (4 by death; 2 by letter). Total active resident members are 3390. A motion to accept the membership report passed unanimously.



CHURCH COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES

Missions - Mike Mayer Chair

Mission had an email vote to send 400 dollars to our 27 direct partners. \$10,800 mission gifts unspecified were approved by the mission committee. Next meeting will be on Jan 17, 2021.

Personnel - Clark Moreland

Personnel committee met today and on Sunday, December 13th to meet Moe Bomer. Berry Simpson Chair, Wes Lewis, Karen Lea, Jonathan Wells, and Melinda Hall comprised the search committee for the Business Administrator.

Personnel is seeking Church Council's endorsement of the Personnel Committee's vote to approve Moe Bomer as Business Administrator.

Motion to approve endorsing Moe as Business Administrator passed unanimously.

There will be an opportunity for church members to meet Mr. Bomer and have a question/answer period on January 9th.

An announcement will be made in this week's Church Bulletin. There will be a specially held Church Conference and vote on January 10th.

Safety and Security- Patrick Mayers

Mr. Mayers discussed ongoing review of the governance documents and made subcommittee assignments. There will be an email meeting on Wednesday.

Walking tour of the church proved to be very interesting and eye opening.

There are approximately 75 cameras around the building which are a big part of security. Wes is doing a phenomenal job with gatekeepers.

Transportation- Scott Daw

The committee will meet January 10th.

<u>Old Business</u> None to discuss

New Business

None

Flo Akintunji closed in prayer. The meeting was adjourned at 8:20PM

Kristal Cotton, Secretary, 2019-20

Date Approved

Ministers Monthly Report to Church Council December 14, 2020

Darin Wood Senior Pastor

Dear Church Council friends,

Grace and Peace today my friends! As I celebrated Thanksgiving like I never have before, I reflected on all God has done in my life and in my family this year. While it's certainly not the year I planned for it to be in January, it is certainly the one God had planned for me. I have listened (on repeat!) two particular songs this year. Zach Williams' "There was Jesus" and an oldie but a goodie, "Joy in the Journey" by Michael Card. Both of these songs have underscored to me God's rightful and necessary place at the center of my heart and the necessity of focused and discipled living in Christ. If I allow my eyes to drift off to the waves of fear, the winds of uncertainty or the whims of opinions, I'll find myself overwhelmed.

A SHIFT IN SCHEDULES

As we discussed in November, we've made numerous alterations to our schedule. I'm hopeful we will not need further changes, but you need to know we've had several of our senior staff out in recent weeks, either COVID positive themselves or their spouses were positive, and we enforced our protocol to insure everyone's safety. We've developed contingency plans for what happens if we are asked to shut down and have plans for what happens if we don't shut down but have key people out.

I have no doubt this season will pass, but until it does, please continue to pray with me for clarity, wisdom in shepherding God's flock, peace as we continue forward and – perhaps like never before – flexibility to adapt. It's easy to think "this will be over when we get out of 2020", but it won't be. And the arguments about mask mandates pale in comparison to the battle awaiting about the vaccine, it's administration and requirements regarding its usage. Although I am not a prophet, 2021 may make us wish for the halcyon days of 2020.

BUSINESS ADMINISTRATOR SEARCH COMMITTEE UPDATE

I'm satisfied with our progress and will give you a further update when we gather for our meeting.

YOUTH ASSOCIATE SEARCH COMMITTEE UPDATE

Our man John-David Culbertson and his committee have a January visit scheduled with their preferred candidate. Hopefully, with God's good grace and kindness, we'll have something to say about this at our January meeting. Keep praying that way.

BIBLE READING PLAN FOR 2021

As we did in 2020, we'll be distributing a Bible reading plan. Through the Bible in a year. I'm told – by my own staff I might add – that I read too fast. No one but me, apparently, can read the assigned Biblical portion in 15 minutes so I'll be dropping that part of the title. The plan, however, is one that we need, especially now.

If I were to make just ONE request of this Council, it would be that each of you would join me on this journey to read the Bible all the way through in 2021. I don't know how many times I've done so, but each

and every time I do, I find something I didn't see before. Perhaps it's that I've grown in age or maturity. Perhaps it's timing. Perhaps it's simply God's revelation to me. Regardless, I want to challenge you – as the leaders of our church's organizational structures – to lead spiritually! If we've EVER needed to hear from the Lord, it's now. Let's take time to build this into our schedule.

Your servant, Darin

James Ervin Senior Adult Minister

Hospital Visits

- MMH has limited visits to patients by family members, but I am still allowed to visit our church members who have been hospitalized. It helps to have a point of contact and these folks really appreciate the visits when family cannot be present.
- I follow up on folks with a phone call after they are dismissed from the hospital.

Home Touch Ministry

• We continue to make phone calls and home visits as allowed. We also drop off Sunday School quarterlies to those who ask for one.

Chapel Service

• I planned and led worship for the Chapel Service on November 1,8,15,22. Attendance has been fairly consistent, but less during the recent surge of COVID cases.

Sunday School

- Attendance for the 55+ division has remained steady but has seen a decline due to the virus. Overall, the people who feel comfortable in attending continue to participate.
- The David Department moved to E111, which puts them closer to the worship center. This has been a positive move for this department.
- Presently, I am looking for new department leaders for the Joseph Department. Bill and Patsy Bain will be moving to Waco.

Senior Adult Choir

• Joyful Sound continues to rehearse. We sang for worship on November 22 in the chapel service. We are currently working on a musical project that we can video tape and send to area nursing homes.

DMA

• We cancelled our plans for the December Christmas gathering due to the closure of food services on campus and the rise in COVID cases.

Funerals

- I assisted with the funeral service of Red Roberts on November 23.
- I officiated the graveside service of Paulette Thompson, November 23.

Hope for the Holidays

- Planned and helped lead this service on Sunday, November 15.
- Jeff recorded the service and also provided a live-stream version for people who could not be present.

Cory Brand Minister to Families

*We have continued to hold Family Worship Services in the Fellowship Hall each week.

*Our FX Live services have continued. Our service on November 15th was well attended, and we had a great response from both parents and kids. Shelden Kinnison preached from 1 John 3.

*I have begun meeting with a couple for premarital counseling each week.

*After discussing this current season and forecast with church leadership and Communio, we have decided to postpone the Tall City Date Night events until further notice.

*I have continued to contact those who respond during the text invitation through PastorsLine.

*I am continuing to meet with a discipleship group with 4 young men. I also meet with other D-group leaders to provide support and direction once a month.

*I remain in regular contact with our Adult Sunday School leadership.

*James and I have been receiving and evaluating resumes for the Family Ministry/Senior Adult Ministry Assistant position, which will open at the end of the year when Rhonda Carroll transitions to the Business Office. Interviews will be conducted in early December.

*Amy and I were able to slip away for a few days to celebrate our 21st anniversary. We had an enjoyable and restful time away and are so thankful for the opportunity.

*I completed my 'Basics in Christian Counseling' course through B.H. Carroll Theological Institute. Registration for the 1st spring term does not open until mid-December.

Church Council Report November 2020

Sunday School

	11/1/2020	11/8/2020	11/15/2020	11/22/2020	11/29/2020
Attendance					
Adult	132	130	129	100	125
Adult 55+	258	239	213	180	128
Single	31	33	32	11	24
College	12	11	6	13	15
Student	90	58	78	44	54
Children	76	75	74	48	48
Preschool	69	67	69	59	53
Other Adults**	31	35	31	30	31
Total	699	648	632	485	478

** Other Adults includes Gatekeepers, Media volunteers and General Officers.

For an average of 585 for the 5 weeks of Sunday School and a 90 day Average of 667

Other Sunday Activities	11/1/2020	11/8/2020	11/15/2020	11/22/2020	11/29/2020
Sunday School Online Views	71	67	48	No data	No data
Sunday Night Youth	13	29	28	Did not meet	Did not
					meet

Weekly Activities

	Oct 26-30	Nov 2-6	Nov 9-13	Nov 16-20	Nov 23-27
Wednesday Evenings					No
Mission Friends	39	40	40	26	Campus
GA's & RA's	60	84	91	86	Activities
MidPoint (Youth)	30	37	31	30	scheduled
College	12	13	12	12	for
Momentum Yes	14	13	15	12	Thanksgiving
Other Groups					Week
Precept on Precept	23	22	18	17	
D-Groups	13	22	12	17	
Total	191	231	219	200	

Aaron Hodges Minister of Music

Our Fall semester in Preschool and Children's Choir has been an incredible semester. Amid COVID concerns, we were not sure how this semester would go, but Glory be to God, it was great. We will finish up this Wednesday, December 2. Our plan currently is to start back on Wednesday, January 13.

As you all know, due to COVID rising in our community, we decided to do this year's Christmas musical virtually. We will present a very unique Christmas musical this year, virtually only, on December 13th at 6:00pm. We will be recording the musical on Wednesday night December 9 at 6:30 and then we will put it online on Sunday evening. This is definitely not the preferred way to present the musical, but I believe it is the safest and that God will honor our work for Him.

The Rooted Student Choir sang in the 11:00 service on November 15th. They did a fabulous job. I am looking at them helping in the 11:00 service more this coming winter and spring.

Christmas Eve is filling up fast. We are watching it and will adjust as we see the need arise while at the same time keeping safety in mind.

John-David Culbertson Student Pastor

November was a slower month in the student ministry, with a lot of planning. Our Associate Student Minister search committee has one candidate that they have selected to bring for an in-person interview. Due to the scheduling issues around the holidays, the interview was scheduled for January 17th & 18th.

Our college ministry has fully transitioned its midweek Bible study back into homes, rotating between the Kinnison's and the Cotton's homes. It was a good month for the college ministry. A lot of our students returned home from school, so our numbers are high right now, both on Sunday mornings and on Thursday nights.

I finished up my study of the major Old Testament figures on Wednesday nights with the students and transitioned to Advent. Wednesday nights have been up and down, as have Sunday mornings in the student ministry. We are still having a regular rotation of students isolating for 2 plus weeks at a time, so tracking students over the last month has been a challenge.

Indoor sporting events at the school are mostly closed to the public, with passes only given to families of athletes, so I have been finding ways of keeping up with our students without necessarily being able to attend in person events.

I booked a speaker and a band for Impact weekend and have been developing a plan A and a plan B for that weekend. I will likely not commit to a plan until as close to the event as possible. I don't want to rule out a normal event prematurely, but we are developing a plan B in case we are not able to do a full Impact schedule.

Sarah Arrambide Minister of Children's Education

The first two weeks of November were great. We had a great time in Sunday School. Our volunteer base is complicated, to say the least. I'm still actively recruiting in hopes of filling some spots. In the meantime, I continue to combine classes and move teachers around, when necessary.

On November 8th we had Invite a Twin to Church Day. The kids were encouraged to bring a first-time guest and dress like twins. We had 8 first time guests!! We gave prizes for the best dressed twins!

On November 20th, we had Superhero Night at the AB. This event was for girls and their dads, or special male figure. It was a fun night!

Bible Drill is going well. I had the opportunity to help them the first Sunday in November.

GA's and RA's are doing well. They are adjusting to their new meeting location on the 2nd floor D hallway.

The second half of November has been challenging, but even so, God has been faithful. I was diagnosed with COVID on November 21st, which meant many days of quarantine for me and my family. Thanks be to God, my symptoms were, for the most part, somewhat mild. I had several bad days but started feeling better around day 5.

I was able to stay in touch with the children's ministry leaders during my illness. As usual, they did what they do best and kept Sunday School going. Several teachers were out due to the Thanksgiving holiday and some who came down with Covid. I want to thank Allison Ashmore for manning the Children's Hallway in my absence.

Thank you so much for your prayers and support! I'm praying for you all!

Amy Brand Minister of Preschool Education

Preschool Ministry, like everything else this year, is continuing to roll with the changes and trying to anticipate what might be coming next! It continues to be an adventure, but I know that God has incredible things that He is doing in the midst of this season. I'm so thankful for that assurance, even when we can't understand it!

*I have spent a lot of time in November preparing for our upcoming Parent Commissioning/Family Dedication service. We had a luncheon in November for families participating in the service, and several were able to attend. We spent some time talking through the significance of their commitment and what they could anticipate that day. I followed up with emails to all families who had signed up to make sure all had the information.

*I've been collecting information from all of those families to provide to Darin, put together slides for our services, and prepare certificates. I've also put together resources that these families will receive on the day of our dedication services. We shut down the church offices November 23rd-25th due to an increase of COVID cases among staff, so I spent part of my time working from home putting these things together and chasing down missing information from families!

*I led another Life Skills class at Midland Fair Havens in November. It is a joy to meet with these moms each month and talk about how we can parent our kids in a way that honors God. This month, we looked at times of the day that are primed for struggles (bedtimes, mealtimes, mornings, homework, etc.) and talked about some intentional routines that they can consider to ease some challenges that may arise.

*We handed out gifts to our preschool families for them to open on December 1st. These are nice advent books with preschool-friendly family devotionals and activities that can be used year after year. I'm excited to hear feedback on how these have impacted worship times at home.

* I have continued to watch for changes in the CDC guidelines for schools and childcare facilities. I continue to work on staffing classrooms with significant volunteer gaps, providing materials for social distancing, smocks, cleaning supplies, and health screenings, and providing teachers and parents with the information and assurances they needed to return.

*Our numbers have been lower than Pre-COVID and have actually declined a little bit since returning (and even more so the last two Sundays of November). Many of our youngest families continue to seem reluctant to return quite yet, and many of our volunteers are out due to quarantines/positive tests.

*I'm continuing to write a weekly family devotional and pull a preschool coloring page for the FBC @ Home page on our website.

*I am continuing to contact all Preschool volunteers weekly.

*I have reached out to all preschool parents to encourage them to stay connected and to be intentional about disciple-making, even if they are worshipping from home.

* Numbers of children are very low during the early service (averaging 2-3 per week in October), but classes are staffed and ready to receive them once they return. We are going to drop to two classes of staffed classes for that hour and will be flexible with our age grouping based on who is here.

* Wednesday night activities, including Mission Friends and Preschool Choir have seen a bit of a decline in these last few weeks, but are holding at decent numbers. We will end the semester on December 2nd.

*I've maintained contact with all underlying ministries, including CDO, MOPS, MARY, CBS, and CDC. While CDC is under state licensing guidelines, all ministries to preschoolers and their families are abiding by the same procedures for consistency. (Our guidelines are consistent with the state licensing guidelines, so CDC looks very similar in that regard.)

*MOPS has discontinued their Tuesday evening meetings for the remainder of the year and will reevaluate for the spring.

*MARY Ministry continues meeting on Tuesday evenings.

*We have continued to provide quiet activities for children at each table in the Fellowship Hall. We've set up changing tables in the JAM Room (monitored by staff for cleanliness) and have facilitated the Family Worship services each week.

*We held another FX (Family Experience) Live Service in the Fellowship Hall on November 15th and had a great group in attendance. We continue to have new families visiting and connecting with FBC through that family worship service.

*I have continued monitoring the governor's orders as well as the CDC guidelines for opening daycare facilities (which also includes churches during this time), including updates as they have become available.

*The Child Development Center has had multiple teachers and aides with COVID. A second classroom had to be shut down for two weeks, but thankfully, one of those weeks overlapped with the Thanksgiving holiday. Only one week of instruction and care was impacted.

*The Children's Day Out program has had one positive case among their teachers. It doesn't appear to have affected any others yet.

As always, let me know if you have any questions about anything in this report, or just anything about the Preschool Ministry in general! I am so thankful to serve all the little ones and their families at FBC, and love being a part of a church that loves families just as much as I do!

Bryan Pinson Minister of Missions

Missions Ministry Events:

- December 5 Christmas Outreach 9am- noon
- December 20 No Missions Committee Mtg
- January 17 Missions Committee Mtg, Bill Holmes & Greg Smith
- February 21 Missions Committee Mtg

Missions Ministry Priorities

- Unreached People Groups
- Indigenous Pastoral Training
- Reproducible Church Planting

Christmas Gift Card Giveaways

We have never done it this way before!

This is definitely true for our Christmas outreach. Our members have been so generous in donating gift cards that will allow FBC to minister to struggling families even in the midst of Covid chaos. Registered families will be coming to receive their Christmas assistance this Saturday, December 5 from 9am-noon. We will be following Covid protocols with masks and spacing for volunteers and 1 parent from each family. They will be able to enjoy a coffee/hot chocolate while watching a video Christmas presentation and live gospel presentation before receiving their bag with information about our church, an evangelistic Christmas DVD, and their gift cards. Our registered families have been referred by Lamar and Sam Houston Schools, Baptist Crisis Center, Mary Mentoring Ministry, FBC members, and our FirstCares (Benevolence) Ministry. Approximately 85% have registered using an online system that was developed and has worked beautifully!

What a Blessing

What a blessing to have the opportunity to serve in this fantastic church whose best days are still before us. I love working with such a wonderful and fun-loving staff! I am also very thankful for Eva Diaz and Malia Hodges who complete our FBC Missions Team. They do so much of the heavy lifting that allows our church to have the involvement and imprint from Midland to the world. Their passion to help people and serve the Lord encourage me daily. Merry Christmas to All!

Assistance Description		Amount	# Helped	
Electric	\$	553.11	2	
	~	555.11	2	
Gas/Propane	\$	-		
Water	\$	283.17	1	
Rent	\$	6,426.89	7 *	
Prescription/Medical	\$	-		
Gasoline/Transportation	\$	_		
Furniture	\$	_		
Miscellaneous	\$	-		
Monthly Total	\$	7,263.17	9	
•		-	(1 family helped w/2	
			services)	
Fiscal Year Total	\$	20,152.73	28	
Professions of Faith this month: 1				
Total to date: This year we have assisted <u>28</u>	<u>a people fina</u>	incially and have s	seen <u>1</u> people come t	
know Christ as Lord and Savior				

November 2020 FirstCares (Benevolence) Report

John Elliott Minister of Activities

- We opened Upward basketball registration on November 2nd. All divisions except 5th/6th grade girls were full in less than two days. We did reduce the league by at least 100 kids due to Covid and if we continue with the Upward season, we will attempt to limit the number of guests at practices and games.
- The Activities Ministry is teaming up with the college Sunday School department and John-David and organizing a college ski trip January 3 7, 2021. It has been over 25 years since the last college ski trip and there is 19 people going.

Mary Schultz Child Development Center Director

November was a very unusual month at the CDC. Most of our time was spent simply managing COVID in our school. We had several staff members test positive for the virus in the latter part of October and throughout November. Our remaining staff rallied around to cover classes and duties and kept our school running smoothly. We also had some of our parents test positive for COVID, but none of our students did! For that, we were so thankful!

As a state licensed facility, we have been required to follow very strict COVID guidelines from the start of this school year. These guidelines focused primarily on COVID protocol and safety of our *students*. After the spike in virus cases in our staff and parents, we were asked by Dr. Wood to make adjustments that would decrease the likelihood of our staff spreading COVID during school hours. We submitted and implemented a plan to do just that.

On November 20, our students and teachers enjoyed a scaled-down version of our traditional Thanksgiving feasts in their classrooms. Because parents were not allowed in our facility, this celebration was a more intimate celebration than usual.

We ended the month of November more thankful than ever for the leadership at First Baptist. We appreciate the attention to details, constant communication and the care shown to the FBC congregation, staff, and students.

Jim Hansen Director of Maintenance

MAINTENANCE:

- Change out safe in Finance Office
- Change out ceiling tile throughout facility
- City changed out water meter
- > New electric plug for switch gear cameras
- > New electric plugs for youth in the garage
- > New electric plugs for children cross over
- Change light bulbs in facility
- Daily work orders

CUSTODIAL:

- > E-mist each room after use
- > Daily work orders
- > Events for November

2	Staff Birthday
	WMU
	Brotherhood Luncheon
3	SonShiners
	M.A.R.Y. Mentoring
	MHS Football Booster Club
	M.O.P.S.
4	Children's Choir
	MidPoint
	GA's & RA's
	Mission Friends
5	Iron Men Bible Study
	CDO
	Precept Upon Precept
	First Priority – Midland High
	Baptist ESL
9	Boy Scout Court of Honor
10	CDO Play Day
	Executive Committee Meeting
11	Maintenance & Expansion Meeting
	Wednesday Night Bible Study
	Music & Missions
12	DPS Highway Patrol
14	Dickens Party
15	Missions Meetings
	Family Dedication Luncheon
	Finance Committee Meeting
	Hope for the Holidays
16	Church Council Meeting
17	CBS Drive Thru – North Parking Lot
	M.A.R.Y. Mentoring
	Evermore Class Fellowship
18	Children's Choir
	RA's & GA's
	Safety & Security Committee Meeting
19	CDO Thanksgiving Feast
	Baptist ESL
20	Whigham Funeral Service
21	Shepherd Team Dinner
23	Roberts Funeral Service