

MINUTES OF THE CHURCH CONFERENCE

FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH

RALEIGH, NORTH CAROLINA

November 20, 2024

**Call to Order**

Moderator John Smith called the conference to order at 6:24 p.m.

**Business**

Minutes of the October church conference were approved without dissent.

Changes to the church roll. Frank Powers died on November 1, and Betty Griffin died on November 2. With these changes, church membership is now 1,312.

**Standing Committee Reports**

*Finance Committee:*

Moderator John Smith provided the November 2024 financial numbers to the conference.

October, 2024 - Total revenue, excluding investment income, of \$103,752.03 and total expenses of \$158,964.39. Expenses were in excess of revenue by \$55,212.36.

Year To Date - Total revenue, excluding investment income, of \$1,240,885.63 and total expenses of \$1,389,019.57. Expenses in excess of revenue by \$148,133.94.

Moderator John Smith noted that contribution are ahead of 2023 however expenses are higher. It was also noted the current deficit matches almost exactly what is pledged for 2024 but not yet come in.

The 2025 Finance Committee Officers are as follows:

- \* Chair: Ryan Willis
- \* Vice Chair: Tom Rollins
- \* Secretary: Rene Fulk
- \* Vice Secretary: Myra Brickell

*Properties Committee*

Committee Chair Bob Bailey provided the report to the conference.

Activities outside the preschool area are related to a broken pipe that requires repair.

The contract for choir loft renovation is ready to sign.

Awaiting City of Raleigh approval for the new signage and for tree removal previously reported on.

*Nominating Committee:*

Committee Chair Lynn Loomis provided the report to the conference.

Music Ministries Council: Rhonda Lowe, Hollis Yelverton, Jamie Vogel, Libby Barnes, John Hite, Matthew Taylor.

### **New Business**

Moderator John Smith reported on the election of new deacons:

- \* Men: Jay Carothers, Jerry Dudeck, Wes Fulk, Adam Harker, Bob Kimball, John Liverman, John Shell, Royce Wilmschen
- \* Women: Marianna Burnette, Tonya Carter, Marchelle Flowers, Jen Foster, Jessica Helms, Holly Ivel, Pam Powell, Sarah Catherine Rhodes

### **Announcements**

Reverend Leah Reed reported on White Flag. First Baptist Church was asked to consider serving as a White Flag shelter for women during the winter months. Wake County provides various temporary emergency shelter sites for women experiencing homelessness on nights when the temperature drops below 35 degrees.

Reverend Reed noted that ministers and staff are working on the logistics to make this happen. First Baptist Church will be partnering with Edenton Street UMC to house women on dates when First Baptist has conflicts with regularly scheduled events in the fellowship hall, and to bridge a gap of time on Wednesday evenings.

While Wake County handles everything involved with housing people in a space, a need has been identified for a small team of people to help our custodial staff break down tables and chairs on the afternoons / evenings when First Baptist will be hosting. Contact Reverend Reed if willing to serve on a team to help prepare the fellowship hall for White Flag.

Dr. Chapman reported we are hoping to reschedule Dr. Jemar Tisby for a date in the spring as he promotes his new children's book. More details to come as plans for a new date develop.

Dr. Chapman also noted the National Day of Racial Healing would like to utilize our facilities again on Saturday, January 18.

Lastly, Dr. Chapman reminded the conference that First Baptist Salisbury Street is scheduled to host the 2025 State Employees' Martin Luther King Jr. Observance Program on Friday January 17.

Dr. Chapman closed the meeting with prayer at 6:57pm.

Respectfully submitted,

DRAFT