

FIVE RECOMMENDATIONS FROM THE GOVERNANCE TASK FORCE

1



Clarify the role and function of a Deacon

Among other commitments, Deacons will

- Cultivate & uphold the vision of the church
- Serve as the discerning body for the church in matters of congregational life
- Provide congregational care and connection to members

2



Form a Leadership Council

- Collaborative, efficient space for decision-making across committees, teams, staff, Deacons
- Includes “ministry groups” – collectives of ministry teams grouped by function (discipleship, care, mobilization)

3



Streamline the work of Committees

- Reassign the work of the Policy & Scholarship Committees to the Deacons
- Fold in the work of House & Grounds with staff and Leadership Council
- Move from 7 committees to 4

4



Align the work of Ministry Teams

- Add new ministry teams: Young Adults, Fellowship, Parish Chaplains
- Shift responsibilities of Hospitality in response to church growth
- Rename Communications/Outreach to Community Engagement

5



Assess along the way

- Make changes as needed – nothing is locked in!
- The model has to work for the congregation, not the other way around.

How We Govern & Lead at First Baptist on Fifth

Staff

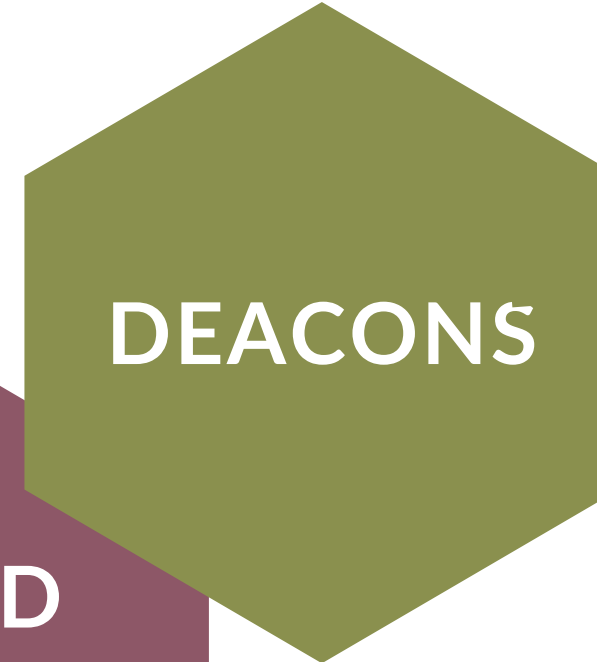
- Spiritual and pastoral leaders of the church
- “Administering the total program of the church”
- Plan and lead all gatherings of the church (worship, faith formation, fellowship, service, etc.) for all ages and demographics
- Offer care for members in time of need
- Represent the church in matters of civic and denominational interest

Committees

- Lead and authorize ministry
- Do what staff doesn't or can't
- Manage money in large quantities

Ministry Teams

- Extend the work of ministry
- Share responsibility with pastoral staff
- Advise pastoral staff
- Volunteer to plan and implement needs
- Flex based on church needs



Deacons

- Uphold the vision of the church
- Extends love, belonging, and connection to our congregation with all the active individuals and families of the church
- Gives financially
- Models spiritual well-being through leadership and lives of discipleship
- Engages with the beloved community
- Presides during the sacraments alongside the pastors
- Helps the church discern its important decisions
- Has their finger on the pulse of the congregation & represents well
- Staffs the Nominating Committee
- Votes on the board members of WSCEA
- Serves as the Board of Directors for the church
- Recommends ministers for ordination
- Creates task forces as needed

Leadership Council

- Create space for efficient administrative and programmatic decision-making
- Coordinate strategic planning and ministry coordination for the church
- (POSSIBLE) Create task forces as needed by the church
- Conduct periodic reviews of church policies and processes



