

First Baptist Church – Blanco
2025-2026 Church Council Meeting
Oct. 12, 2025 - 12:30 pm, FBC room 305

Council Members:

Alan Deetjen-Adult Education;
Chairman
Eric Carr-House, Grounds,
Improvements Vice Chairperson
Rene' Daniel; Clerk
Rex Bailey-At-Large
Diana Blackburn-Missions
Carla Clark-Local Missions

Monette Harbert-At-Large
Karen Hinson-Hospitality
Stephanie Hudson-Children/P-K
Gary Kuzins-Community & Family
David Morgan-Trustees
Adam Painter-Pastor
John Pepper-Personnel
Heinz Roesch-Finance/Treasurer

Michael Smith-Deacons
Abby Weldon-Worship
Jonathan Weldon-Youth Director
Richard Wesseling-Safety/Security

Judi Hagood-Admin Asst; invited
Elaine Troublefield-Media
Coordinator; invited

AGENDA - Meeting begins at 12:33pm

New Business:

1) Prayer

Eric asked special guest David Lowe to come and present to council.

From David Lowe;

He has come through and looked at all of our set-up and systems. He has worked with all of the equipment that we have, worked out bugs, streamlined as much as possible. When it comes to our equipment, he has some suggestions to move to a more user-friendly console.

Additionally our current AV/Sound area is upstairs. This poses a problem for mixing sounds for the stage. He is recommending our AV/Sound station be moved downstairs to the sanctuary in the back and on the right-side as you walk in. David is willing to build the platform and wall for approx. \$800-\$1000 versus contracting out someone else to do it. Size would be about 8x8. Total cost for the project would possibly be higher if we decide to put in a new board and adaptor as well.

David has a background in not only running sound, but creating sound systems and based on his expertise, this is his recommendation.

2) Approval of September meeting Minutes. (Forwarded Mon. 10-6-25).

Motion from Richard
2nd John Pepper
Minutes approved

3) Transfer of Letters – Rene' Daniel

Rene' Daniel is absent and will present new information on members during our November council meeting.

4) Church Treasurer's Report (Finance) – Heinz Roesch

Finance committee does not have any other business reports as they solely worked on the 2026 budget this month. As of now, all of the requests from all ministries have added up to a total of \$919,416.20 requested for 2026.

Based on projected income versus the requested budget, there is an expected gap in what is being requested versus what will come in. Finance committee is recommending that all of the specific ministry designated funds are to be used first to help bridge the gap.

Heinz went through some of the expected increases in fund needed. Specifically our emergency maintenance/repair fund, higher utility costs, higher insurance, increase in cleaning contract, as well as went through the specific request from security to increase budget to cover more security team members and their future training needs. Heinz continued to go through the 2026 budget presentation, attached, to explain some of the proposed costs. Overall these numbers are all preliminary and still need review and further consulting of some of the ministries. Pastor Adam and Heinz will meet to discuss further.

Richard asked Heinz how a new building campaign would be funded. Heinz explained that funding would likely come in three parts which would include savings, raised money from a campaign and a loan. The amount for each part would depend on total projected costs for the new capital improvements. This is still very much in the early stages and costs have not be set on these projects.

5) Committee/Ministry Reports (*Please hold reports to 5 minutes or less*)

- a) Adult Education – Alan
 - a. Added a Spanish class to our Sunday morning service. David & Bertha Silver are leading this class.
 - b. Monday night class added - Alan Leading this class at FBC Blanco campus.
 - c. Few adult classes are down on Sunday mornings - why is this? Maybe we can help identify why and maybe who could come to these classes. The Boyd's class an the May's class specifically.
- b) Youth – Jonathan
 - a. Off for 3 Wednesdays so looking forward being back on Wednesday nights this coming week, the 15th.
 - b. Fields of Faith - Approx 150 people attended! Great success!
- c) Children's/Preschool – Stephanie
 - a. 2 services has helped to make a more peaceful experience in each classroom.
- d) Community & Family – Gary
 - a. Gary's counseling load has increased with individuals and marriages.
 - b. Currently taking continuing education classes to support the growing counseling needs.
- e) Worship – Abby
 - a. Absent
- f) Deacons – Michael
 - a. Identified 5 potential new Deacons and planned to meet with one more and then will bring those men to the congregation for approval.
- g) Hospitality – Karen
 - a. Absent
- h) House, Grounds & Improvements – Eric
 - a. Sanctuary foundation repair is needed. Eric is working on getting bids for repair.
 - b. All other needs are within current budget.
- i) Local Missions – Carla
 - a. Just preparing for Light Night!
- j) Missions – Diana
 - a. One of the current missionaries that we sponsor has let us know that they are okay and only requesting prayers at this time and no longer financial support.
 - b. Budget requests coming in higher or missions so that some of our missions team and be "boots on the ground" in their ministry.
- k) Personnel – John
 - a. Elaine has been increased to 30 hours per week.
- l) Safety & Security – Richard
 - a. John Watson is identifying 2 new persons to go through the sheepdog security training to help take some of the pressured of John and Bill Boop.

- b. Looking for new volunteers to be added to our security team!
 - c. Gary asked a question: If we have things being hosted at our church, but they are not FBC Blanco events and something happens, is FBC Blanco liable. John Watson will meet with David Park to discuss what our insurance policy says on what we are liable for. For example, if the Methodist church hosts 5th quarter in the FBC Blanco parking lot, what does FBC Blanco have to provide? These details will be figured out and we will have security report back to council on what the rules and parameters are.
 - d. Carla Clark asked if there was a sign on the playground that basically says “play at your own risk” and it was confirmed that yes, we have appropriate signage at the playground to enforce this.
- m) Trustees – David
- a. Absent

Heinz let us know that we will be added a secondary copy/fax/printer that will be put in the old library. This will be the only color printing option to help cut down on accidental color printing. There will still be a machine in the main workroom by the front offices for black and white printing.

- n) Thoughts/Reports – At-Large Members – Monette & Rex
 - a. Nothing to report.

- o) Senior Pastor Report – Adam

- a. 2026 plan for how our church asks and raises money throughout the year. Adam wrote a list on the whiteboard of all of our 2025 financial requests thus far and the planned asks for the remainder of the year. He listed off 10 total requests including;
 - i. Laurel Branch
 - ii. Annie Armstrong
 - iii. Glorieta Bus Trip
 - iv. OCC
 - v. Kerville Flooding
 - vi. BISD School Supplies
 - vii. Mary Hill Davis
 - viii. Light Night
 - ix. Lottie Moon

b. We need a better plan for 2026 to plan ahead what we want to budget for, what we let go and what we continue to ask for. We also need to be mindful knowing that a building campaign is coming down the “pipeline”

Diana Blackburn is speaking on behalf of the missions’ committee. She said they have wrestled with this within their committee on what they are asking. She spoke to the importance of the Lottie Moon offering and how the larger global missions allow people to serve in “our place”.

Heinz is appreciative that Adam has brought this to the council for discussion. He spoke to OCC being now part of the budget in 2026 instead of additional asks, and even the idea of candy being part of the budget for 2026 for example instead of asking for it although this is not an ask for money specifically.

Gary spoke to the idea of just including everything in the budget and letting our church know from the “pulpit” that we are a church that gives and sends out. Eric was in agreement and that we have a culture of giving overall.

Carla Clark spoke to the idea of the baby bottle boomerang and also that she is the new chair for the Local Missions committee. She spoke to needing to know expectations and any chairperson for the committees should be on the committee prior to being elected as the chair. She is asking for direct feedback and information of what is expected of her. She is willing to hear and would like input!

Pastor Adam then moved forward with this idea of Acts 1:8 and how we are supposed to be local first and then move out from there. Order of operations for some of the conversation towards how we give our money. Judi expressed a confirmation of what Adam said about having a better plan and not going to the congregation over and over asking for money above and beyond our tithes and giving.

Rex Bailey spoke to adding it to our overall budget as well. We can still highlight our giving to the church as something that is already part of the budget. He also expressed that it was hard seeing how much went to the Laurel Branch church virus local Young Life.

Adam stated that we should pray and continues the conversation to have a solidified plan by November so that we have a plan for 2026 and can be unified in our efforts.

Jonathan spoke to his experiences at previous churches and being familiar with the Baptist “big 3”, likes the idea of deciding what is church focused and sponsored versus what is just being shared with the congregation. All items have value and a great heart behind them, but what do we get behind as a church. He concurred with the Acts 1:8 model and spoke to us being witnesses in our own Jerusalem in more than just monetary ways on how to impact our community.

Monette spoke to the missions committee supporting OCC boxes and voiced that in 2026 maybe if a choice has to be made that we would support a local angel tree effort over OCC if the choice needed to be made.

Alan wrapped up this section of the meeting on giving with a challenge back to Heinz and finance committee to go back and re-visit ministry requests and see what can actually be added into the budget as we already have established that we have a gap in expected tithes and offerings and our 2026 budget. We are already planning to use our designated funds to bridge the gap so how would this be absorbed. Alan said that missions will re-visit their needs and take it back to finance committee. Let's be in a season of prayer over what our direction is as a church.

Other Items:

11) Calendar Items:

a) Next Lord's Supper: 1st Sunday of each month

b) Next New Members Luncheon: TBD

c) Next New Member Rally: Nov. 16th

d) Next Council Meeting: Nov. 9th @ 12:30 pm in the Joy Classroom

e) Future Membership Meeting: TBD (Approve Budget); January 18th; April 19th; July 19th or 26th depending on VBS

f) Senior “70+ yrs” Dinner Party: Friday, March 13, 2026

12) Prayer

13) Adjourn - Diana Blackburn made a motion to adjourn and Eric Carr 2nd the motion.