

**First Baptist Church
The Discernment Team
July 25, 2018**

Members present: Paul Chotlos (Board of Trustees), Wynn Davies (Board of Outreach), Carla Eakins (Church Clerk), Bill Fiore (Moderator), and Tom Kersten (Vice Moderator)
Absent: Carolyn Cross (Board of Education), Nancy Emmert (Pastoral Relations Committee), and Brooke Siddell (Pastoral Relations Committee)

The meeting was called to order at 6:05 pm by Moderator Bill Fiore.

1. Functioning of Committee/Group Dynamics

Bill passed around historical documents he had received from Lenore Coberly. He reported that he had a recent conversation with Marie Onwubuariri regarding the ABC circuit leaders being trained to help churches. Issues facing FBC include while being a very welcoming church, can we set aside some of our traditions; where have we been; where do we need to go; and how to revitalize. Bill distributed copies of a number of email exchanges and reviewed some of them. He commented that receiving too many emails becomes very stressful. Committee members reviewed and discussed the email exchanges. Bill requested that committee members refrain from trying to conduct committee business via email other than to request that an item be placed on the agenda for a meeting

Claire Rider's invitation for the Discernment Team to make a presentation at the Third Tuesday Lunch on August 21 was reviewed and discussed. Committee members agreed that it is too soon for such a presentation. Bill will convey that decision to Claire and offer to make a presentation at the Third Tuesday Lunch in September after the Team has made more progress.

2. Celebration of Mark's Ministry

In follow-up to a discussion at the June 20 meeting, Bill Fiore has confirmed that a committee consisting of Gwen Abramson, Mary Fiore and Bill Hausler—with assistance from Bessie Woodward—has agreed to plan an appropriate event to celebrate Mark's 28 years of ministry at FBC.

3. Interim Minister

Committee members discussed calling an interim minister at the end of Mark's tenure to serve during the pastoral search process. After a brief discussion, committee members agreed on that plan. Bill indicated that he will poll absent committee members to be sure that they don't have any objections. **Note: Bill consulted with the absent committee members, and there were no objections.**

4. Meeting with Prospective Consultant Team

The meeting adjourned at 6:50 pm so that committee members could meet with the prospective consultant team, Rev. Linda Kuhn and Rev. Dave King of Sandbur Consultants. At the end of the discussion, the committee requested that Revs. Kuhn and King provide a proposal for assisting with the discernment process, including a cost estimate, as well as references from churches they have assisted in similar processes.

5. Next Meeting

Wynn has been in contact with the second prospective consultant team, and the next meeting will be scheduled in early August when the prospective consultant is available.

6. Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 9:05 pm.

Respectfully submitted,
Carla Eakins, Church Clerk