

First Baptist Church of Beverly Hills

3rd Quarter Business Meeting September 4, 2022

Agenda

**Prayer/ Opening of Meeting – Establish Quorum
New Member presentation, Presentation of Minutes of Previous Meetings
Presentation of Reports, Old business, New Business, Prayer, Close**

- **Prior Minutes**
- **Membership Report (For Quorum)**
- **Pastor's Report**
- **Worship Report**
- **Office/Connection Report**
- **Nominating Team Report**
- **Good News Club Report**
- **Kids On the Rise Report**
- **Church Administrator**
- **Building & Grounds Report**
- **Personnel Report**
- **Deacons Report**
- **Trustee's Report**
- **Missions Update**
- **Treasurer's Report**

Prior Meeting Minutes

First Baptist Church of Beverly Hills
2 Q Regular Business Meeting
June 5, 2022, 12:25 PM

Yvette Harris, moderator, called the meeting to order at 12:25 PM with a prayer. A quorum (16) was confirmed, with 32 in attendance. Pastor Marple Lewis presented 1 new member for membership. Michelle Justice was introduced. A motion was made by George Fay to accept her membership, second by Paul Short. All were in favor. Michelle Justice was accepted into membership.

Prior minutes were approved as recorded, with no changes noted. A motion was made to approve minutes as recorded, made by Grace Lawlor, second by Jim Clark-Rosa. All in favor, none opposed.

The presentation of the following reports:

- Membership Report (For Quorum)
- Pastor's Report
- Worship
- Office/Connection Report
- Nominating Team Report
- Good News Club Report
- Kids On the Rise Report
- Church Administrator
- Building & Grounds Report
- Personnel Report
- Deacons Report
- Trustee's Report
- Missions Update
- Treasurers Report

. A motion to accept all reports as presented was made by Jim Lewis, second by Grace Lawlor. All were in favor. Reports accepted as presented.

Question presented by Priscilla Cuba as to how attendance was recorded, and Pastor explained the rolls had not been cleaned up during covid, for those that never returned to church. Letters had been sent to see if they intend to return, as our Bylaws state those we have not seen, or have not contributed in a 6 month period, and not responded to the letters have been placed in inactive status, and removed after another 6 months of inactivity.

Carmen Pedroza-Oliva asked about the procedure for keeping in contact with those who have not been in service, and if this was a deacon function, and if there are other ways to keep in contact. The Pastor explained the deacon call lists during covid.

No old business for review.

No new business for review.

The business meeting was closed by a poem from Yvette Harris followed by a prayer. 1:00 PM.

In Christ,
Elaine Boszak, Clerk

Membership Report

Chronological Roll of Listed Members - 421

Dismissals (death, transfers) 365

Homebound (3)

Inactive 7

Total Active/Voting Members 46

1/3 Active Membership over 18 needed for Quorum (16)

Pastor's Report

Church Family, for this quarterly report I am submitting something different than usual. Much of what I want to brag on is other church leaders who will be submitting their own reports. We have much to praise the Lord in the past 3 months and we celebrate the Lord in each monthly UPLIFT service. With a new school season upon us, we will have greater opportunities to serve Him by serving others. Therefore, I chose to submit my devotional message from the August UPLIFT service in hopes that it speaks to your heart and helps us all develop an attitude of service that glorifies God.

For the Lord, Not Men

Colossians 3:23 “Whatever you do, work at it with all your heart, as working for the Lord, not for men...”^{NIV} Would you agree there's an important difference between doing something for people and doing something for God? Would you agree that God always deserves our best effort?

The four FCBH values that represent our vision & mission are Faithfulness, Excellence, Equipping, and Loving. Those four values work well together and are not hard to find in the teachings of Jesus. Let's talk about Excellence but first, we must look at a condition where excellence is lacking— it is mediocrity.

Mediocrity is indifference or being “lukewarm”, and look at what the Lord Jesus has to say about that: **Rev 3:14-16** “These are the words of the Amen, the faithful and true witness, the ruler of God's creation. I know your deeds, that you are neither cold nor hot. I wish you were either one or the other! So, because you are lukewarm— neither hot nor cold— I am about to spit you out of my mouth.” *Spit* is better translated as puke or vomit.

The church at Laodicea thought that it was spiritually rich, having all the truth of God's Word, and therefore not open to further light. It regarded itself as theologically pure and complete, needing no improvement. But the church was actually, in the words of Jesus, “wretched, miserable, poor, blind and naked”. This means that they were spiritually blind and couldn't fathom that they were exactly opposite to what they thought they were, and because they didn't have Christ's robe of righteousness, they were spiritually naked and about to be vomited out of His mouth.

What should motivate us to serve people, except our love for God? God deserves our love, and He demands that we love others in the same way He does.

Mark 12:30-31 Jesus said it this way: Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind and with all your strength.' ³¹ The second is this: 'Love your neighbor as yourself.' There is no commandment greater than these."

Mediocrity and laziness have no place in the Christian's life. There's surely no place for these standards in Christ's church either! Think about it. What is a major strength of ministry in the church? Before you say the work of the Holy Spirit, think about how God frames ministry. I have added boldness to certain words for emphasis.

Mark 6:7 “Calling the Twelve to him, he sent them out **two by two** and gave them authority over evil spirits.”

Acts 2:1-2 “When the day of Pentecost came, they were **all together** in one place.”

Acts 2:4 “All of them were filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak in other tongues as the Spirit enabled them.”

Acts 2:42-45 “They devoted themselves to the apostles' teaching and to the fellowship, to the breaking of bread and to prayer. ⁴³ **Everyone** was filled with awe, and many wonders and miraculous signs were done by the apostles. ⁴⁴ **All the believers were together** and had everything in common.”

Acts 2:46 “Every day they continued to **meet together** in the temple courts.”

Acts 4:31-32 “After they prayed, the place where they were meeting was shaken. And they were **all** filled with the Holy Spirit and spoke the word of God boldly. ³² **All the believers were one in heart and mind.**”

We are empowered by the Holy Spirit but for the purpose of working **TOGETHER** in Kingdom ministry. The Greek word Ekklesia is commonly translated as “church.” Ekklesia is defined as “a called-out **assembly** or congregation.” People working together. For Christians to meet a standard of excellence to the glory of God, we must work well together to accomplish God’s kingdom plan and His purpose fulfilled.

Unlike NFL football teams, we have no superstars in church except for Christ alone. To win, though, we must play as a unified team with excellence for the good of the church. A worship team, therefore, must invest themselves in each rehearsal **together**, even if individually they are talented, for it is in the harmonizing of voices that exalt Christ when they blend the beauty of their gifts. The pastor preaches alone but still must rehearse diligently in preparation of the worship service. Nevertheless he must still work in partnership with others to coordinate a service. A pastor can only successfully lead in the mission of the church with excellence when he surrounds himself with fellow servants more gifted than he. That goes for all ministry that we do at FCBH.

We’re a team– a church family. To achieve excellence for the Lord, we must work together, pooling our talents to give the Lord the best we’ve got because He deserves our very best. To offer God mediocrity in anything we do, from our financial gifts to our talents and abilities, is an insult to Him.

Rom 12:1-2 “Therefore, I urge you, brothers, in view of God's mercy, to offer your bodies as living sacrifices, holy and pleasing to God — this is your spiritual act of worship. Do not conform any longer to the pattern of this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind. Then you will be able to test and approve what God's will is— his good, pleasing and perfect will.”

When guests walk into our church, do we want to convey to them that we really love the Lord? How do we do that? Does it matter *how* we greet them? Sure it does! What does it communicate to them if our Worship Team or preacher come across ill-prepared? Does it say we don’t view God as though He deserves our very best? That’s how it would speak to me! And would I want to return to a church where I hope to grow and develop spiritually when I perceive their standard of giving to the Lord is mediocre? No!

Working for God, as opposed to working for other people, changes our perspective as we view our endeavors in light of what He has done for us. When it comes to giving, God gave us His very best when He gave us Jesus! Shouldn’t we want to give Him our best? Giving my best may not be as good as you giving your best but both God and others appreciate it when we leave nothing behind. Our labor then becomes an offering to God. We not only worship God at church on Sunday, but our labor throughout the week is an offering of worship and thanksgiving to the One who has given us everything we have. He is worthy of our best effort.

God is good!
Pastor Marple

Worship Director Report

We are blessed to serve God by leading the worship experience! We welcome new members to the Worship Team with vocal or instrumental talents to share. Please join us if you desire to give of your service to God through this ministry of music, prayer and praise! To God be the Glory!

Humbly submitted,
Yvette Harris, Worship Leader

Office/Connection/Clerk

The office has been busy this quarter. With the help of the Church, looking and watching for new construction in our area to be completed, we have provided over 50+ baskets, and many still on the wait list for people to move in. We were able to do this at no cost to the Church, but provide an invitation to Church, along with cards and gifts from local merchants, and a bible supplied by the Gideons. God is Good. We will continue to welcome new folks to our area with an invitation to come to Church!

A new water fountain has been added to the foyer, replacing the old one that had a leak.

We have become a Voting Place for the Board of Elections this year, starting with the primary this past August, and the election in November. Community Bible Study will be starting back on Campus September 8, utilizing all our space. They have been a blessing to us with donations, and helping with food and clothing supplies as we need them for the school.

A new phone directory will be out in November. As always, the office is available for notary service – free to members, and a small donation to the Church for non-members. Tell your friends.

The Connection Center has a list of services in the Community for those that may need help with Food Banks, and various services provided by the community. If you have a need, please ask to see the list available, or go to the website, www.fcbh.com, and look under the Community Help Links. There is a lot of information for medical resources, Drug discounts, a Benefit Checkup link that tells you what you may be able to apply for to get help. Be blessed.

In Christ,
Elaine Boszak

Nominating Team

No new business to report for the December Business Meeting.

In Christ,
Cathy Miksza

Good News Club

We're just a few weeks away from when we will be back in Central Ridge Elementary School teaching the gospel of Jesus Christ to children. Our first club is September 13th.

The last couple of weeks have been busy with the GNC team members in planning meetings and two of our members in TCE1 class. I'm proud to announce that Jim Clark-Rosa and Carmen Pedroza-Oliva have completed the Child Evangelism Fellowship 4-week training that's needed to teach a bible lesson in the club. We now have eight qualified teachers! During our last planning meeting all teaching assignments, including memory verse, wondertime, and missionary story, were assigned to our teaching team. This material is for the first 12 weeks of club, taking us up to the Christmas break. This will give everyone time to prepare for their part in club activities.

Many of our volunteers attended the school's open house August 8th where we met parents and had an opportunity to introduce Good News Club to them. We also distributed over 75 applications for club – some which were completed that evening. As of this writing we have had 19 parental permission forms returned to us. In the coming week letters will be sent to parents of last year's GNC students with applications reminding them of the return of GNC and its start date. If you would like to become a club volunteer, please see me. If not, please pray for the volunteers, school, school staff, children, and parents.

If you would like to volunteer just to help at the school, but not GNC, please remember that you must complete the Citrus County Volunteer Training. The next training is September 2nd. Applications for this is available at the connection center.

Terry and Janice

Kids On The Rise

Behold, how good and how pleasant it is For brethren to dwell together in unity! This is what we experienced to the fullest in the 5 day club which ran from July 18-22nd. Each day volunteers worked closely together and experienced God at work. First day of the club we had 6 children but the next day the amount of children doubled.. Praise God. We had an average of 13 children throughout the rest of the week. We ended the week by inviting the parents to join us for lunch

Nursery - After many ongoing prayers for God to bring us new families. Our prayers were answered. God brought to us a family that have nursery age children. So for the first time in years the nursery is up and running. As the need for volunteers will be ongoing, please consider volunteering. A background check is required and a willing heart...Please sign up at the connection center if you are willing to sacrifice one Sunday a month.

KIDS ON THE RISE - Gradually our Kids on the Rise is expanding. Now that school has resumed, we hope to see a more consistent attendance as children invite their friends and more families come into our church. There is no limit as to what God can do.. If you have a desire to help in our

Children's ministry, you are very welcome and appreciated. We invite you to come . Background check is first required. The form is simple . Check with Grace the financial secretary. The harvest is plentiful but the laborers are few. Praying for laborers. Might that be you? He is the Vine, we are the branches. Jesus said if we remain in Him and He remain in us , we would bear much fruit. For apart from Him we can do nothing . God is so faithful and we must remain faithful as well.

Abiding in Christ
Joan Vitale

Church Administrator

During this quarter, the administrator teamed up with the financial secretary to begin the transfer all the church's bank accounts from Brannen Bank to TRUIST Bank (a merger of the former SunTrust and BB&T Banks). In addition, we will be cancelling all our current Synovus Bank credit cards and opening new accounts with TRUIST. The purpose of these moves is threefold:

1) Cancellation of the Synovus credit card. We have been paying a yearly fee to Synovus Bank for the privilege of using their card. However, we have not been earning any reward points. With TRUIST, we earn reward points for using the card. The rewards points can be traded for cash to benefit our church and its programs. Additionally, we will not pay a yearly fee.

2) Multi-functional Transfer of Money. We are now able to transfer money within a few business days from any church account to any individual, company, vendor, contractor, or bank. This is done via several different programs: online bill pay, the Zelle system, the Automatic Clearing House (ACH) process or wire transfers. Using ACH services, we are now able to make automatic direct deposits from our church account directly to an employee's bank account. Thus, saving postage and check fees, while guaranteeing deposits and eliminating mail delays.

3) Consolidation of banking functions. Previously, the church maintained credit cards checking/savings accounts, and a certificate of deposit in three different financial institutions. Consolidating all banking functions with TRUIST ensures uniform policy and management of all banking services... one-stop shop. The transfer of banking services to TRUIST will also drive some changes in current church operations:

A) Management of credit cards. Credit cards will no longer be signed out to individuals on the register maintained in the church office. Instead, credit cards will be issued to designated personnel for the purchase of goods/services for church operations or for a specific designated funds (e.g., Good News Club, Change-for-Change, Kids On The Rise, etc.). This will ensure that there is no mismatch of accounts, and that the proper fund is charged. It will also provide a more accurate record for each account and expedite reconciliation.

B) Direct Deposits. Most church employees have already opted to have their paychecks automatically deposited to their individual bank accounts.

C) Online Bill Pay. The church will be setting up bill pay services for all our vendors and service providers. Thus, saving the costs of envelopes, postage, and check fees, eliminating possible

late fees, while guaranteeing payments. We sincerely believe that these changes are a significant improvement and are most beneficial for the overall operation of the church. Most important, the new banking features will ease the accounting burden on the Financial Secretary, while improving the efficiency of our financial management system. Until the transfers of all funds has been completed, the financial report will appear differently. You will notice that both financial institutions, Brannen and TRUIST, will indicate money in the account (see the Financial Secretary's report).

In His service,
Bob Ward
Administrator

Building and Grounds **3rd Quarterly Report**

Good news! The ramp project is nearing the construction stage. We recently received from our contractor the site drawing for the construction of the ramp. Once reviewed and approved by the Church's Trustees, the contractor will send the drawings to the County Board to get a building permit. The contractor does not anticipate any delays with the County Board's approval and issuing the permit. Once the contractor receives the building permit, construction of the ramp will begin.

During this quarter, the Church acquired the service of a mowing contractor. After initially adjusting to the loss of some employees, the company is back on track with its service. Each month during this quarter brought a large turnout of volunteer personnel for Church Appreciation. Volunteers began each session with prayer, which was followed up with a generous helping of donuts and coffee. Members joined in several small teams to trim bushes and pull up weeds. On Church Appreciation in August, a small band of eager, brave, and courageous volunteers attacked the trimming of the palm tree on the eastside of the Franklin building. Thanks to their efforts, the appearance of the east face of the Franklin building was appreciably improved.

The Church needs volunteers for the Building & Grounds Team to join with Team Leader, Stacy Ash. We are looking for 2-3 devoted members to help Stacy plan, organize, and direct the efforts of the volunteers in the repair and maintenance of our Church facilities and campus. The church, after 3 ½ decades, is starting to show signs of wear and tear. We all want the First Baptist Church of Beverly Hills to shine bright and provide a welcome invitation for all coming to the worship services and other church activities. If interested, please contact Stacy Ash or Bob Ward.

In His service,
Stacy Ash
Building & Grounds, Team Lead

Personnel Report

No Report Received

Wanda Lee
Personnel Chair

Deacons Report

No Report Received

Norman Thompson
Deacon Chair

Trustees Report

Trustees met for approval on the Handicap Ramp, and that is in the works. The Church Van was sold for \$8,000.00, and the money was added to a designated account to purchase a newer vehicle when we get a youth minister. The 20 year old van was costing us to maintain and insure it. The money will be a good start to something more appropriate when the time comes to acquire a new one.

Yours in His Service
Elaine Boszak

Missions Update

School Mission Project

The Central Ridge School has just recently resumed classes for the coming school year. We await the list of needs from the school, to be able to supply the students with items necessary for them to learn. Last year we supplied ear-buds that the teachers requested, and prior years backpacks. We also supply gently used clothing and shoes as needed for the kids. As soon as we get this years' request, there will be an update put out, along with a help request.

In Him,
Elaine Boszak

Food Mission Report

Our next food mission event will be during the Holiday of Thanksgiving. We were able to provide food boxes to two families in need who requested assistance – one in July and the other in August of this year.

In His Service,
Yvette Harris, Food Mission Ministry Leader

FBCBH Income/Expense 2022 - Monthly Giving

Month	Income	Expenses	Difference
January	\$15,011.22	\$18,777.07	-\$3,765.85
February	\$11,189.14	\$13,195.53	-\$5,772.24
March	\$12,446.43	\$9,348.37	-\$2,674.18
April	\$10,169.50	\$20,442.19	-\$12,946.87
May	\$21,657.85	\$19,327.02	-\$10,616.04
June	\$10,328.50	\$9,258.35	-\$9,545.89
July	\$13,745.90	\$12,500.15	-\$8,300.14
August	\$3,410.22	\$5,812.98	-\$10,702.90
September			-\$10,702.90
October			-\$10,702.90
November			-\$10,702.90
December			-\$10,702.90
	Income	Expenses	
	\$97,958.76	\$108,661.66	-\$10,702.90

Special Collections 2022		
Matching Grant		\$23,031.92 to Aug 15, 2022

All Accounts		Totals 8/15/2022
Brannen	General Checking	\$8,139.11
Truist	General Checking	\$10,100.00
Brannen	Designated	\$46,178.35
Truist	Designated	\$100.00
Brannen	Money Market	\$79,899.14
Truist	Money Market	\$100.00
Brannen	Regular Savings	\$38,150.92

Total Cash Assets	\$182,667.52
Rental Donations	\$4,700.00
Note: Rental Donations not included with monthly giving.	
<u>15,000.00</u>	to meet expenses
Total Income to date	Includes Rentals \$102,658.76
Income less Expenses	-\$6,002.90