

April 21, 2021

Message #1 from the Pastor Search Team

Your seven member pastor search team, plus one alternate, met for the first time last Sunday, April 18th. Also attending was Dr. Walton and Kavon Novak, deacon chairman. The Pastor conducted the first part of the meeting and provided training in the area of reading/reviewing resumes and doctrinal differences in Protestant denominations. He then left and we elected officers: Danny Davis chair; Scarlette Taylor vice chair; and Ashly Sawicki secretary.

First and foremost, this team request your prayers as we work through the selection process.

The team wants to say that we church members all owe the 12 members of the transition team a great vote of thanks for the extensive work they have done to review and then focus our church's heritage, purpose, leadership, connections, and future. And critical to this whole process has been the work of Dr. Walton as intentional interim pastor.

The First Baptist Church Caldwell pastor position has been posted with the Texas Baptists (BGCT) webpage, *The Baptist Standard* (SBC), and with Truett Seminary in Waco, B.H. Carroll Theological Institute in Dallas, and Southwestern Seminary in Fort Worth. The ads will run one month. If necessary, we will extend this period.

Guiding the search team is the work of the transition team. In fact, we met with them, the Sunday before our first meeting. That coordination will continue as this search for a pastor continues. Also, as the process moves forward, we are glad to hear from any church member on church mission, goals, organization, etc.

To date we have received 15 resumes. As these come in, the team will prayerfully review each one. We are working under strict confidentiality rules. We intend to protect the privacy of each applicant to the utmost. We will not discuss with anyone outside our meetings the individuals under consideration. Y'all elected each of us to this team. And we take the responsibility as a sacred duty.

Like each of you, we are resolved to find the man God has set aside to lead us. Also understand that we are going to work within the Good Lord's time schedule, under the guidance of the Holy Spirit, as we can best discern it.

The mission of the pastor search team is to prayerfully work through the various applicants, and under the guidance of the Holy Spirit, select one candidate, in view of a call as pastor of First Baptist Church Caldwell. Church members will then vote yea or nay. The Lord's Will Be Done.

Pastor Search Team

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|-------------------|-----------------------------|
| Cody Finch | Scarlette Taylor |
| Marc Groce | Johna Wright |
| Ashly Sawicki | Danny Davis |
| Dustin Stahlheber | Charles Sebesta (alternate) |