

COUNCIL DESCRIPTIONS
First Baptist Church
Savannah, MO

Effective: January 1, 2004

General

- 1) The Councils of the church are responsible for the providing of recommendations, policies and leadership to the church in their respective areas.

CHURCH COUNCIL

Members:

- 1) The council is made up of members as indicated:
 - a. Committee chairs from:
 - i. Personnel
 - ii. Nominating
 - iii. Media
 - iv. Finance
 - v. Counting
 - vi. Building Appearance
 - vii. Building and Grounds
 - viii. Deacons
 - ix. Church Hostesses
 - b. Others:
 - i. Church Clerk
 - ii. Member at Large
 - iii. Women's Ministry Representative
 - iv. Women On Mission Director
 - v. Sunday School Director
 - vi. Men's Ministry Representative
 - vii. Special Ministry Groups as needed.
 - c. Staff:
 - i. Senior Pastor
 - ii. Administrator
 - iii. Finance
 - iv. Senior Adult Ministers
 - v. Activities Director
 - vi. Youth Minister
 - vii. Church Secretary
 - viii. Music Director

- 2) Membership on the council varies according to the makeup of the committees.

Description:

- 1) The council provides guidance, leadership and support to the ministries of the church.
- 2) The council may bring recommendations to the church regarding the functions of the committee or other appropriate areas.
- 3) Each member of the council has one vote.
- 4) An agenda for the council meeting will be set forth by the Senior Pastor or his designee.
- 5) Each group/activity or staff position represented will present a report of ministry/activities at each council meeting.

DEACON COUNCIL

Members:

Deacons are elected to serve in the role they hold. The election of deacons occurs as follows:

- 1) The church holds deacons and deacon candidates to biblical standards as set forth in Acts 6:3 and 1 Timothy 3:8-13.
- 2) The church establishes the number of “active” deacons relative to the need of the church, and the ministry of the deacons in the church. The number may vary from year to year.
- 3) Those nominated to the office of deacon must have been a member for at least one year at the time of the nomination.
- 4) A deacon nominating committee, composed of three active deacons, three members of the church nominating committee, and the pastor, will submit names of those who meet the criteria established in bullets 1-3 above to the church nominating committee as a whole. The church nominating committee will contact the persons whose names are submitted to determine if they believe God is calling them to serve as a deacon and if they are willing to serve if their call is confirmed by the church.
- 5) The names of those indicating a willingness to serve will be voted on by the church membership and those receiving a three-fourths majority vote will become a “candidate deacon” and will serve a one year training period with the active deacons.
- 6) If after the one year training period, the candidate deacon still feels call to become a deacon, upon review and approval of the church, the candidate will be ordained.
- 7) Newly ordained deacons will immediately serve a three year term as an active deacon. Others will serve a three year term as elected by the church. Deacons who have completed a three year term will be known as reserve deacons. The deacon nominating committee will nominate reserve deacons each year, as needed, for election by the church to replace those rotating off.
- 8) All active deacons rotate off the deacon body after three years. They are replaced as outline above. After serving a three year active term, a deacon must serve a minimum of one year as a reserve deacon before being eligible for serving on the active body again.
- 9) Election of deacon candidates will take place on a bi-annual basis; election of reserve deacons to the active body will take place annually as needed.

Description:

The deacon council exists to assist the staff in the spiritual and pastoral care of members in the church as shown in scripture. The deacon council may also serve to bring recommendations to the church on matters of policy, staffing or other areas as deemed appropriate by the church.

SENIOR ADULT COUNCIL

Members:

The Senior Adult Council is made up of volunteers age 50 and over. (There is no specified length of service or election process.)

Description:

1. The Senior Adult Council meets quarterly (or as needed) to plan and evaluate activities for the Top of the Hill Gang. Any church member age 50 or over may participate in TOTH activities.
2. The Council hosts quarterly luncheons at the church. Three times a year the meal is provided free of charge and once a year the Council hosts a potluck lunch. Members are free to suggest luncheon topics or speakers.
3. The Council plans the annual program for Senior Adult Sunday, which is typically held in June but the date may change according to the needs of the Council and in accordance with the Church calendar.
4. The Senior Adult Council also considers recommendations for special events or projects involving senior adults.
5. The Senior Adult Council is responsible to the Senior Adult Minister.

Description Approved/Affirmed by Church Business Session on March 21, 2004:

Pastor

Date

Church Clerk

Date

YOUTH COUNCIL

Members:

The youth are first nominated by their peers. After a waiting/nominating period of one month the nominated youth are then asked if they would be willing to serve a one year term on youth council. After they accept, the nominees are then put to a vote. They are voted on by the adult leadership of the youth.

The adult leadership looks at each nominee and discuss' whether or not they would be a good candidate for the council. They discuss growth in Christ that they have seen or see in each young person. They also talk about commitment to God and to youth events. Participation in past youth events and attitude during those events is also talked about.

There is one youth chosen from each grade after they are discussed. They are voted on and the youth in each grade with the most votes is chosen. There isn't a hierarchy in the youth council. Every youth is equal.

Description:

The purpose of the Student Ministry youth council is to provide information to the youth leader on events and feelings that are being expressed in the youth group. The following items are specific to the responsibilities of the youth council members.

1. Discuss with their peers what activities they would like to do, what they do not want to do, and find alternative activities as appropriate. These findings are to be reported to the Youth Pastor and youth leaders for consideration. All ideas are highly valued and appreciated.
2. Youth Council members are, on occasion, given responsibilities to help with different youth events.
3. Youth Council members who are seniors in high school may be allowed to plan an activity if they have cleared the idea with the youth pastor and keep the youth pastor aware of all details pertaining to the event.
4. The Youth Council meets with the Youth Pastor on a schedule designated by the Youth Pastor and presented to the Council.

Description Approved/Affirmed by Church Business Session on March 21, 2004:

Pastor

Date

Church Clerk

Date