



Katy's First Family,

As we look forward to celebrating Christmas with you this weekend, we wanted to provide some updates as well as fill you in on how a search for our next Senior Pastor is executed, per our Constitution and By-Laws.

On Sunday, Pastor Coleman and his family, went in view of a call to North East Houston Baptist Church and was officially voted in as their next Senior Pastor. Attached to this email you can view a letter from Pastor Coleman.

This begins our process to find who God has for our next Senior Pastor. Below is from our Constitution and By-laws.

CONSTITUTION AND BY-LAWS

- *Method of Calling. In the event the church becomes without a Senior Pastor, a Senior Pastor Search Committee, recommended by the Deacon Body, of not less than five (5) nor more than seven (7) who demonstrate they are spiritually and doctrinally correct shall be elected by a secret ballot of the church. The vote will be on the entire recommended committee; not on individual proposed members. This committee shall meet together in prayer and for discussion before extending an invitation to anyone to preach before the church in view of a call. The Search Committee will only present one nominee for Senior Pastor to the church body at a time. The church may present names to the Senior Pastor Search Committee for their consideration and investigation.*
- *When the Senior Pastor Search Committee is ready to make its recommendation of a prospective Senior Pastor a question and answer time will be available by the Search Committee for the congregation to address the prospective Senior Pastor. When he has preached the Sunday services, morning and evening, and the question and answer time has been completed the church will vote by secret ballot following the evening service. If there is no evening service being held, the vote may take place after the Sunday morning service. Acceptance of the committee's recommendation constituting a call of a Senior Pastor must have the support of 90% of the members present and voting.*

Currently, the Deacon Officers have been prayerfully considering and reaching out to those who might make up our search committee. In addition to the 7 people that will make up that committee we have also decided to include two alternates that will be apart of the entire process but not have voting power. If someone on the committee must drop for any reason, we will have someone that can fill their spot.

As we have considered individuals, we have taken into account their understanding of doctrine and theology, areas of service at Katy's First, and have sought to put together a diverse group of members that understand the culture and vision specific to our church.

The goal is to have a recommended committee to present and vote on, or around, January 1st. If approved, this committee will then begin a training program through our cooperation with the Southern Baptist Texas Convention before taking recommendations and vetting any candidates.



What can you be doing right now?

Now, and throughout this process, we want you to call on the name of Jesus that he might reveal our next Senior Pastor to us. Pray for guidance and wisdom of the committee to discern through various candidates. Pray for the candidate that God has prepared, that the Lord might begin preparing his heart now for the position at Katy's First. And pray for our church body and the church staff that we might lean into each other more during this season; that we would maintain a spirit of unity amongst each other that would be attractive to the watching world around. I believe God has great things in store for Katy's First Baptist during this next chapter in our 124 year history. *"Trust in the Lord with all your heart, and do not lean on your own understanding. In all your ways acknowledge him, and he will make straight your paths"* Proverbs 3:5-6. We have our 125 anniversary in 2023 and we are looking forward to celebrating this with our church family.

As Pastor Nathan Lorick said on Sunday, this is a time of focused patience, focused purpose and focused prayer.

Merry Christmas and safe travels to all of you that are on the road during the holidays.

Katy's First, we love you and are praying for you.

Ben Keel III
Chairmen of the Deacons