

## COMMITMENTS FOR DECISION MAKING

### Fairview Baptist Church

This document is meant to be a framework to ensure, the best we can, that every decision follows an orderly process in accordance with scriptural outlines of church leadership and the principles put forth in our bylaws. Not every decision will follow this exact process to completion.

1. There are decisions that fall under the leadership of the pastoral staff and committees with conversation with the deacons.
2. There are also decisions that require a church membership vote according to the bylaws, which state, "*members alone shall have the authority to adopt and amend Bylaws, approve budgets, receive members and govern and conduct the affairs of this church.*"

#### COMMITMENT ONE

- According to Scripture, pastors are responsible for providing oversight and directional leadership to the ministries of the church (Acts 20:28; 1 Pet. 5:2).
- Therefore, we are committed to involving the pastoral staff in the development of a decision in order to assure that it is directionally aligned with the mission of the church and their vision for the particular ministry they oversee.

#### COMMITMENT TWO

- While Scripture may not address the role of committees in the local church, our committees most resemble the biblical office of deacon, and committee members have been qualified based on 1 Timothy 3:8-13.
- Therefore, we are committed to ensuring that proper committees are involved in the development of a decision to provide guidance and administrative help according to their functions in the church bylaws.

#### COMMITMENT THREE

- In ministering to the needs of the church family (Acts 6:1-5), the deacons also help guard the unity of the church (Acts 6:1-5; Ephesians 4:3).
- Therefore, we are committed to ensuring that the deacons are provided a chance to give feedback on the decision.

#### COMMITMENT FOUR

- For decisions that require a church membership vote, which according to the bylaws includes, adopting and amending Bylaws, approving budgets, receiving members and governing and conduct the affairs of this church.
- We are committed to ensuring that the members of the church will be notified of an upcoming decision according to the bylaws, and by allowing enough time to prayerfully consider after sufficient "question and answer" sessions and open communication with the pastors, deacons, and committee members.