

Doug Hankins, Pastoral Candidate

~ First Baptist Church Shelby



Dear FBC Shelby family,

We the Lead Pastor Search Committee, unanimously and enthusiastically recommend to you Dr. Doug Hankins as our next lead pastor.

Almost a decade ago, we all began a long process of seeking the Lord – seeking His good, pleasing and perfect will – for the continuation of the meaningful mission of FBC for His Kingdom in the middle of Shelby, NC. We joined together to offer ourselves to His direction for renewed vigor in fulfilling that mission, and for new manifestations of that mission as we follow Him into our Future Story.

As we purposefully worked to implement the revealed aspects of that Future Story, we continued to seek expectantly God’s revelation of other aspects – the meaning of “keeping in step with the Spirit” and “living by faith, not by sight!”

Sometime around the fall of 2017, God began to reveal another aspect of living into His plans in a most unexpected way. We were to begin the bold step of re-visioning the staffing of our church while retaining the current staff. The long process of seeking a new Lead Pastor began by the summer of 2018.

And now after much prayer, many long meetings, reading hundreds of resumes, listening to several hundred sermons and even evaluating scorecards of candidates, we are thrilled to say that even with all we did “God had planned something better for us” (Heb. 11:40). He has gifted us with Doug “to equip us for the work of ministry, for the building up the body of Christ.” (Eph. 4:12) So, we are awed by God’s goodness to have revealed another major step into our Future Story.

Bob Bass, Jenny Dellinger, Dana Graves, Judy Hawkins, Marie Hendrick, Jim McSwain, Becca Sisk

EDUCATION

Doctor of Philosophy, 2011

Trinity Evangelical Divinity School
Deerfield, IL

Master of Divinity, 2007

George W. Truett Theological Seminary
Baylor University, Waco, TX

Bachelor of Arts, Business Administration, 2004

Baylor University, Waco, TX

WORK EXPERIENCE

College & Young Adult Pastor -- July 2016-Present

First Baptist Church, Orlando, FL

Teaching Pastor / Campus Pastor -- 2013- 2016

LifePoint Church, Plano, TX

Adult Discipleship Pastor – 2009-2013

Highland Baptist Church, Waco, TX

Associate College Pastor / Small Group

Coordinator – 2002-2007

Highland Baptist Church, Waco, TX



A Word from Our Candidate

Dear church family at First Baptist Church of Shelby,

As we have not had a chance to meet yet, I wanted to use this occasion to introduce my family and myself to you. My name is Doug Hankins and my wife Natalie and children Grace and James are thrilled to begin praying together about the great things God has in store for First Baptist Shelby.

During this unprecedented year of 2020 there have been several disturbances in our normal routines. We haven't been able to gather regularly with our church family. Our children have been disrupted from their school activities and play dates with friends. And we have worn masks on our faces more than we ever thought we would. I suspect many of you have had similar disruptions in your lives. Vacations have been postponed. Weddings have been altered, and in many cases cancelled. Church is now gathering online. Things feel different.

I have learned in my life that these unexpected moments, while frustrating, are often times when God has a unique opportunity to get our attention and speak to us afresh. It is in these times when we discover an opportunity to follow God as Jesus and Paul and James have taught us – we *hear* and *do*.

We hear from God - *God what is it you are trying to tell us?* We gather with our trusted friends. We pray together about what God might be saying. We search the Bible for clarity on the matter. And once we think we hear from God, we work with our community to put a plan in place in order to be obedient to what God has told us. This is the journey of followers in the path of discipleship.

Lots of our life has been disrupted in 2020. But there has been much good to come out of this disruption. One of the things God began to impress on our hearts is the reality that He would be moving us to a new place, to find a new church family, and to begin to help pastor in a place where He was already moving. Once we learned about First Baptist Shelby, we sensed – this is the family. And this is what obedience to God's leading may look like.

First Baptist is a church with a rich heritage of obedience to God's prompting. And your reputation is that of a people who walk in obedience to God, not man. Despite cultural pressures through the years you have led in Cleveland County with a Christ-centeredness that is to be commended. You have provided a space for the deaf to hear from God. You have loved the immigrant with an ESL ministry. You feed the poor. You make a space for everyone to feel welcomed and empowered for ministry. You have helped to build edifices and institutions that will shine beyond the lives of the present saints. You meet to study God's Word while loving the same people in study. You worship God in heart, in mind, in strength, and in neighbor. And this is a model of ministry that very much appeals to us.

That you have been leading out in such a manner was evident in beginning to speak with members of your Pastor Search Committee. If they are representative of the whole of the church family, my goodness y'all are a blessed bunch. And Shelby is a blessed community for having this kind of moral conscience at the heart of the city. Natalie and I are eager at the prospect of joining you in following God's leading to reach Shelby and Cleveland County.

Natalie and I believe God has put us on this earth to make everyone feel at home in God's kingdom. Your Pastor Search Committee has done that for us in our short time together. We already feel at home and like part of the family. We look forward to joining together soon to celebrate all that God is doing, to love in community, and to live out in compassion to those in need.

Save us a seat,



Doug, Natalie, Grace and James Hankins



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Schedule of Events for Doug's Call

Date/Time	Location	Event
Week of Oct. 5	Mail / Facebook	"Save the Date" postcard
Friday, Oct. 9	Email / phone	Information about call weekend
Wednesday, Oct. 14	Facebook / FBC website	Q&A video with candidate and Dr. Canoy
Friday, Oct. 16 5:00pm 6:00pm	City Pavilion Make Appointment by Sign-up Genius or Call (704) 300-2026	Socially-distanced Meet and Greet *Please go online or call the number at left to schedule your appointment
*by appointment only (group max of 50)		
Saturday, Oct. 17 3:00pm 4:00pm	City Pavilion Make Appointment by Sign-up Genius or Call (704) 300-2026	Socially-distanced Meet and Greet *Please go online or call the number at left to schedule your appointment
*by appointment only (group max of 50)		
Saturday, Oct. 17 7:00pm	Zoom Meeting ID: 910 5119 9552	Meet and Greet for anyone unable to attend in-person events *Use the Zoom code to attend
Sunday, Oct. 18 9:30am	Facebook Live	Worship service with candidate preaching
Sunday, Oct. 18 10:30am	Facebook Live	Called Church Conference
Sunday, Oct. 18 12noon-2:00pm	Dale Street Alley or Online Balloting	Voting – see procedure on next page
Sunday, Oct. 18 Evening	Facebook / Communications Tree (voice, text, email)	Announcement of Voting Results

REMARKS

"As soon as Doug's name was mentioned, I listened to several of his sermons. His passion for the Word of God was evident immediately. Even though his resume was dotted with work experience among those in college and other young adults, his messages were applicable to all ages. Added to that, there was a certain "WOW" factor that excited me. Meeting Doug in person convinced me that he thrives on relationships. Doug is an excellent listener, teacher and overall communicator." **Judy Hawkins**

Anointed; rare blend of pastoral care and academic mind; creates more shepherds; equips saints for the gospel; vision-caster; forward thinker; raises the bar through high expectations and encouragement (references)

"It became apparent early into my initial conversation with Doug that he had the God-given leadership qualities that we had been searching for. The hours that soon followed revealed the vision, passion, great sense of humor and genuine care for people that we are excited to introduce to the rest of our FBCS folks."

Dana Graves

Enthusiastic, energetic, hard-working in leading others to "be" the church and not just "do" church; discerning and compassionate; genuine love for people; incredible communicator (reference)

"Doug brings great positive energy, compassion, and a true heart for service with him. I am so excited for what is to come in the days and years ahead for our FBC family and surrounding community!" **Becca Sisk**

"Personally, I have been impressed by Doug's strong leadership and visionary capabilities, his pulpit giftedness, his spiritual maturity, and his strong passion to share the love of God and Christ through relationships both within and outside the walls of the church. He has a strong intellect and a unifying spirit that will enable him to work successfully with all age groups in our setting. I believe that God has brought Doug and us together 'for such a time as this' and I look forward to our future as we work together to see God's kingdom come on earth as it is in heaven." **Jim McSwain**

“Call Weekend” Schedule & How You Can Participate

- **Wednesday-Thursday:**
 - View Candidate's Introduction on the Facebook and Website homepage (fbcshelby.org)
 - View Interview with Doug and Natalie Hankins to get to know them
 - View Interview with Dr. Hankins and Dr. Canoy on theological topics
- **Friday:**
 - **5:00 PM – City Pavilion** (socially distanced) Meet and greet by appointment sign-up online at Sign-Up Genius or call 704-300-2026
 - **6:00 PM – City Pavilion** (socially distanced) Meet and greet by appointment sign-up online at Sign-Up Genius or call 704-300-2026
- **Saturday:**
 - **3:00 PM – City Pavilion** (socially distanced) Meet and greet by appointment sign-up online at Sign-Up Genius or call 704-300-2026
 - **4:00 PM – City Pavilion** (socially distanced) Meet and greet by appointment sign-up online at Sign-Up Genius or all 704-300-2026
 - **7:00 PM – Via Zoom**, Meet and greet for those not able to attend the in-person times. Use Meeting ID: [910 5119 9552](https://91051199552)
- **Sunday:**
 - **9:30 AM** — Facebook LIVE Worship with Candidate preaching followed by...
 - **10:30 AM** — Facebook LIVE stays live as Moderator opens a virtual Church Conference with prayer and then the Moderator recognizes the Lead Pastor Search Committee for the formal motion. Phone numbers will be on the screen for members to call with question followed by an invitation to come and vote by drive-by balloting or via online ballot.
 - **11:30-2:30 PM -- Drive by balloting** - members drive through Dale Street Alley and are given ballots on the spot and they are marked immediately. Extension Members may request a ballot earlier in the week through their Extension Visitor. And, other members may also request a ballot earlier in the week to be brought to the church by a friend. **Online balloting** will take place simultaneously via ballots on the website (and Facebook).

- **2:30 PM-- All balloting ends at 2:30 pm** with Deacons and Search Committee meeting to count them.
- **TBA:** Announcement of results will be made Sunday after the Search Committee has conferred with candidate.

How Can I Sign-Up to Meet Doug and Natalie?

Meet and Greet at City Pavilion: Each gathering is for maximum of 50 people. When a session is full, please choose another session:

- Go to Sign-up Genius and sign-up for a session: <https://rb.gy/pw7ccp>
- OR Call 704-300-2026 to request a session

Meet and Greet via Zoom on Saturday, 7 PM:

- Go to: <https://zoom.us/j/91051199552>
- Meeting ID: 910 5119 9552

How Can I Vote?

1. Extension Members (and other members) may request a ballot be brought to them by their Extension Visitor or family/friend. Come by the church office and **sign out a ballot** for them and return it during the Drive-By Balloting on Sunday from 11:30-2:30 pm.
2. **Drive-by the Dale Street Alley** between 11:30 am-2:30 PM and receive a ballot to be marked on the spot.
3. Vote **online from your home** by going to the homepage of the website (fbcshelby.org), clicking on the “vote” button and filling out the online ballot. Online balloting is available from 11:30am -2:30 pm. The link to this online ballot will also be on Facebook at the conclusion of the Facebook LIVE broadcast.

How can I hear the sermon?

If you do not see Facebook regularly, consider asking a family member or friend (in your bubble) to join you for the 9:30 AM sermon and help you to view on their iPad or laptop. At 11:00 AM (October 18) the interview with Doug will air on Spectrum Cable Channel 9.