

Executive Pastor Candidate & Timeline



Meet the Candidate: Pastor Robert Keatts

Robert Keatts is the Executive Pastor at Friendly Avenue Baptist Church in Greensboro, NC. He is a graduate of Luther Rice Seminary (M.Div.) in Lithonia, GA, and Columbia International University (B.S.) in Columbia, SC. During the past 30 years in ministry, Robert has served as a church planter, senior pastor, interim pastor, and church consultant.

Robert is married to his best friend, Shelley, and they have four grown daughters: Haley (Phil), Lauren (Ryan), Emily, and Sarah. Robert enjoys biking, travel, and spending time with his family.

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Timeline Concerning Hiring Pastor Robert Keatts At Gospel Baptist Church As An Executive Pastor Of Administration:

Pastor Nick has been talking with Pastor Robert since early March. He then spoke with Pastor Harlie and Gregg in late March or early April.

1. On April 30, Pastor Nick presented to the deacons the idea of hiring Robert Keatts as an Executive Pastor of Administration.
2. On May 22, Robert Keatts met with the deacons to share his vision and resume. The deacons were able to ask any questions, allowing everyone to seek the Lord's will together.
3. On June 1, Pastor Robert Keatts preached as a guest speaker. The congregation had not yet been informed publicly about the possible opportunity for Robert.
4. On Wednesday night, June 4, the deacons met to review the timeline and decided to proceed with presenting this opportunity to the church.
5. During the meeting on June 4, the deacons and pastors unanimously agreed that Pastor Nick would announce to the congregation, on Sunday morning, June 15, that we are considering Pastor Robert Keatts for the role of executive pastor.
6. During the two weeks between the announcement and the vote, Pastor Robert will meet with additional leaders and staff. We will also utilize texts and emails and distribute handouts to share information about Robert with the church.
7. On Sunday, June 22, after the evening BSF classes, Pastor Robert Keatts will share his testimony and hold a Q&A session, along with his wife, Shelley.
8. On Sunday, June 29, in place of the evening BSF classes, the church will have a business meeting to vote on Pastor Robert as an executive pastor.
9. If the vote is in favor, Pastor Robert will serve a 30-day notice at Friendly Avenue Baptist throughout the month of July.
10. Around the beginning of August, Pastor Robert will begin his ministry here at Gospel as the Executive Pastor of Administration.