

Deacon Class of 2021

Dan Burns



Bio: I am from the small town of Winfield in NW Alabama. After high school I went to the University of Alabama and graduated with a bachelors and Masters in Social Work. A few years ago I attended Birmingham Southern and received a Masters in Public and Private Management. After teaching and working in health care for a while I became a realtor and have been with ReMax Southern Homes for the past 12 years.

I joined RBC in 1992 and my wife, Shannon, and I were the first couple married here in August, 1993. Shannon and I have 2 children, Noah and Laura, who grew up in our church and are both members. I sing in the choir and teach a SS class and have served on other committees as well. I enjoy gardening, family vacations and have a passion for gospel music.

Testimony:

RBC is like a second home and family. I became a Christian at an early age, played piano and sang with gospel groups and always was in church somewhere. It was a part of daily living to me. It was easy to gravitate toward the family atmosphere we have here at RBC. Just a few years after Shannon and I married we had twin sons who were born premature and only lived a few days. The love and care we received from RBC was such a blessing at that time. After the birth of Noah and Laura we again experienced the love and care for them as they grew up with wonderful teachers, pastors and church members who made them a part of their life as well. God is a good, daily companion and the central focus of my life. The words of an old gospel song say " If I ever needed the Lord before, I sure do need him now". Yes, every day.

Ray Estep



Bio: Ray, Mindy, and two of their 3 daughters (Shannon & Jennifer) joined RBC in 1986, when they moved back to Hoover from California. Stacy joined the family a few years later after completing college in CA, to take a teaching position in Hoover Schools. They now have 8 grandchildren who were dedicated at RBC, with two active RBC member-families (Harper's & Knights), and the Rhea's who live in Florida. Ray has served on many church committees through the years, including the Property Team since 1986, numerous terms as a Deacon, and is the Church Moderator in 2019.

Testimony:

A "Future Site" sign can change your life! In 1986 we moved to Hoover-Riverchase, and when searching for a church home we drove by the "Future Site – Riverchase Baptist Church" sign. We soon joined that small group of folks, meeting in the basement of the Baptist Medical Center. Getting involved was not an option, and I was drafted as song leader, did the announcements, and chaired the Building Committee even before we even owned the property. The excitement and growth of the RBC Mission was contagious, and our family became deeply involved.

Our growth did not come problem free, but this mission church, started without even owning a building, has been led by the hand of God and the many talented Christians he sent our way. We have overcome two major building programs and the resignations of four senior pastors, to minister to this community even now as we are led by our interim pastor. Growing pains in life, in families, and in churches are inevitable, and as I look back on how the Lord has faithfully led this church, it reminds me that the challenges of my life also have his eternal love and support!

Look closely at the days that lie ahead, and you will see another "Future Site" sign on your horizon. Don't be distracted by the problems and challenges, the hand of God will lead you there!



Dave Ferguson

Bio: David was born in Birmingham and has lived in the Birmingham/Hoover area his entire life. He is married to Tricia Ferguson and they have 2 daughters and 6 grandchildren. David graduated from UAB and worked for UPS for 34 years before retiring. He has been blessed to be able to spend a lot of time with the grandkids over the years. He also looks forward to the start of the Senior Softball season. He has been a member of RBC since 1990 and has taught Youth SS for many years. He counts it as a blessing to have been able to teach the youth and has learned so much from them. He is in the Choir, on the Youth Committee and is Chair of the Building and Grounds Committee. He would love to walk with you at Wildflower Park.

Testimony:

I grew up in the West End of Birmingham and accepted Christ as my Lord and Savior at a very early age. Throughout my journey as a Christian I have been amazed at how awesome and amazing our God is. He tells us to give thanks in all things, good and bad, as He tells us that "All things work together for good to those who love the Lord". I am a cancer survivor of almost 11 years and I thank and praise God for His grace and mercy he has shown me. He has blessed me with a great life in so many ways, a great wife and family, great health, a great RBC family, and great friends. I have not always done or said the right thing but I strive to mirror the Love of Christ in all I do and I know for sure that God is in control and He has provided a way for everyone to have Eternal Life.



Steve Kendrick

Bio: Steve is a native of Birmingham and lived in the area his entire life. He graduated from Samford University and has worked in Information Technology/software development for 38 years. He met his first wife, Dana, at his home church, Hillview Baptist. After battling cancer, Dana went home to be with our Lord in 2004. Steve met Gwen at RBC and they married in 2011. He enjoys singing in the choir and serving our members through the deacon body and other committees. He is currently on the Nominating Committee. His hobbies are golf, softball, family vacation at the beach and whatever his grandchildren want to do.

Testimony:

RBC families have been a part of my life since the church's early days. My mother and stepfather, Barbara and Charles Tittle, are founding members, so I remember the days of spreading the word about a new church in Riverchase. Little did I know, I would one day join. I grew up in the Birmingham area and my family taught me the importance of a Christ centered life. I prayed to receive Christ as Savior at a very young age and allowed the Lord to mold my heart and thoughts through the leadership of some amazing youth pastors and committed church members. I have experienced the love and kindness from God and His people to which I am grateful and know there is no equal. Our children had a similar experience growing up as a part of the RBC family. Life has peaks and valleys, but the joy in my heart, through it all, can only be found in the Lord.