

The General Board of First Christian Church  
Baton Rouge, Louisiana  
Board Resolution Expressing Appreciation to Dr. Kelly and Gladys Runnels  
May 19, 2020

Whereas, Dr. Kelly and Gladys Runnels have been an important part of the life of First Christian Church, Baton Rouge, in its mission to be a living expression of the body of Jesus Christ;

Whereas, the work of Dr. Kelly and Gladys Runnels, especially through the Runnels School, has been an important part of the positive development of children and youths of Baton Rouge;

Whereas, we believe that the calling to educate and shape children's minds and hearts, so that those children might develop as good citizens and people of virtuous character, is indeed a divine calling;

Whereas, the Runnels School has been a significant employer and educator of children, youths and adults who are brothers and sisters in the family of First Christian Church, Baton Rouge;

Whereas, the First Christian Church, Baton Rouge, family grieves the news of the closure of the Runnels School; and,

Whereas, the constructive influence of the Runnels School through the labors of Dr. Kelly and Gladys Runnels, as well as countless teachers, parents and administration who have served, and students and alumni who attended the Runnels School, will live on in our hearts and minds; now, therefore, be it

*Resolved*, that the General Board of First Christian Church, Baton Rouge, on behalf of the First Christian Church, Baton Rouge family,

1. commends Dr. Kelly and Gladys Runnels for their faithfulness in their labors both for the Runnels family and our church family;
2. offer our prayers and heartfelt words of support for Dr. Kelly and Gladys Runnels, as well as the students, teachers, staff, alumni and parents of the Runnels School, that their life transitions following the closure of the Runnels School might become a flowering of the holistic, intellectual, artistic, relational and benevolent seeds that were planted, watered and nurtured in their time at the Runnels School; and,
3. that though this public chapter of the life of the Runnels School may be coming to a close, we believe that the story of her positive influence lives on for generations in the character of those touched by her influence.

Adopted by the General Board of First Christian Church, Baton Rouge, this 19th day of May, 2020.

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Pam Jones, *Board Chair*

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Rev. Dr. David Chisham, *Senior Minister*  
First Christian Church, Baton Rouge, Louisiana