

★ Faith Board of Aldermen ★

Choose five

On the issues...

What would be your top priorities if elected?

What is the biggest challenge facing the town?

Why should people vote for you?

Harold "Keith" Deal

First-time candidate
Age: 54
Address: 3001 Gantt St.
Background: Retired from materials management in the operating room of Carolinas Medical Center-Mercy in Charlotte. Faith Volunteer Fire Department firefighter for 30 years, chief for 20 years. Lifelong member of Faith Baptist Church, where he serves on the board of directors and safety committee.



"Our water and sewer would be a priority. Our fire department and police and public works department would also be priorities."

"With the way the economy has gotten, I think we have to be very careful on what we do with the town's money ... You can't go out and just spend it unwisely. You have to make sure that what you're spending it on is what we need."

"I think I would be fair and honest on the board, and I would just try to help the community that we live in ... I just hope that people, when they go to the polls, will let me have a chance."

Warren "Gary" Gardner

Incumbent
Age: 63
Address: 422 W. 2nd St.
Background: Running for 13th term on the town board, has served two terms as mayor and also served as mayor pro tem. Works in engineering for Duke Energy. A member of Shiloh Reformed Church, Faith American Legion Post and Keller Masonic Lodge in Rockwell.



"To continue to provide the services we provide now and keep our tax rate where it's at. We haven't gone up in a good number of years. I don't know that there's really that much other than we have our own water and sewer system, and we deal with them. We're doing pretty good under the economic conditions."

"The economic conditions we have now. We don't have much industry out here, but we've been doing pretty well. It's the things we have to do that's sent down from the federal and the state (that causes concern). They don't produce money for what they want done. We're just trying to hold our own. We've been doing well over the last 20 years, and we're trying to work within our budget limits."

"Experience would be my only thing. But really anybody could run for the town board, and it would be great if we had more people running. We've got six this time ... I'd like to see 10 or 15 people run. The only problem is there could be a chance that all five members would be replaced and you wouldn't have any experience as far as knowing what's going on."

William "Bill" Melvin Johnson Jr.

Incumbent
Age: 50
Address: 1270 Balfour Quarry Road.
Background: Running for fourth term on town board, is presently serving and served one previous term as mayor. Works as administrator of the Lutheran Home at Trinity Oaks. Member of Faith Lutheran Church, where he serves on church council.



"Our current priority is we entered into a police authority with Granite Quarry to increase our police protection. It was the most economical way to use the resources that we had and get the best coverage for our community ... Most recently, we joined with Granite Quarry and Rockwell in getting the rural bus route to our area ... another way we're working with the towns around us to provide services together."

"Trying to maintain our services to the community at a cost that everyone can afford to absorb. We don't have a lot of business opportunities in the town of Faith because of our geographic layout, so we have to provide services to our citizens at a reasonable rate, but one that we can maintain."

"I feel like I represent my community well. I take the position seriously and feel like we have done everything we can for the best of the community. I think I understand that folks want to see Faith remain a small, close-knit community while the area's changing. We're continuing to see growth around us, and we're trying to keep our community so that we have that small-town feel."

Wilbur "Todd" Peeler

Incumbent
Age: 47
Address: 3011 School St.
Background: Running for third term on town board, serving this term as mayor pro tem. Works as scheduling specialist for Duke Energy. Member of Faith Lutheran Church, where he is also employed as groundskeeper. Served in the Faith Volunteer Fire Department when he was younger.



"To try and keep all this change to a minimum. You look around, all our taxes are going up. Gas has gone up 20 or 30 cents in the past two or three days. The jobless rate keeps going up, and nothing seems to be getting any better ... To try to maintain an even playing ground with taxes with all the issues we have in the world."

"With the economy in as bad a shape as it's in, to do what we have to do to keep our tax rate from going up any higher."

"I think because I've been loyal to what I said to begin with, trying to keep the town the same, trying to keep change to a minimum ... It's always been a very difficult job."

James "Maxey" Sanderson

Incumbent
Age: 64
Address: 119 S. Main St.
Background: Running for third term on town board. Is president of Impact Technologies Group. Member of Shiloh Reformed Church, where he is a Sunday school teacher and past elder. Serves as Advocacy Chair for Rowan County Relay for Life and is a member of Faith Civitan Club and Scottish Rite Mason - Salem Lodge.



"Doing more studies by the police authority on the speed of traffic going all through town, but particularly Main Street ... With the additional business activities on Main Street, it's a real concern safetywise ... The other issue is a more current one ... the state mandate that people can't put plastic in their trash after Oct. 1 ... The concern is with the elderly people that we have living in town."

"Attracting businesses and new homeowners without allowing the growth to counter the unique qualities of the town. We're much more content with preserving the town from a progressive nature than just trying to grow the town."

"I've enjoyed being able to serve and to be able to put back into the community and to help preserve the community the way it is. Faith is such a unique community and all the residents of it, I think, have a sense of pride in trying to keep the community progressive at the same time without changing those desirable characteristics. I think the present board has done a good job of that."

Job Markas "Mark" Shores

Incumbent
Age: 54
Address: 503 E. 2nd St.
Background: Running for 10th term, has served as mayor for two years and mayor pro tem for six. Co-owner of Aluminum Designs and Spinaker Manufacturing. Member of Shiloh Reformed Church, treasurer since 1987, as well as Keller Memorial Masonic Lodge in Rockwell; Salisbury York Rite Bodies and Rowan Shrine Club.



"My first priority would be to keep taxes at a reasonable rate, our water and sewer rates at a reasonable rate and to maintain a strong police authority and fire department for the town."

"I think our biggest challenge is infrastructure development and maintaining adequate services at a reasonable price for our citizens."

"My experience on the board brings a lot to the table for the town. My background in finance also gives the town citizens a strong financial eye on the town's budget ... We have a good working board."