



March 12, 2020

Church Family:

In light of the threat of Coronavirus (Covid19), the Staff and leadership at First Baptist Church want you to be aware that we have a multi-phase plan in place to minimize risk during times of activities and worship. Please be aware of these facts:

- On March 15 & 22 we will not have Sunday School. Worship at 8:30 AM & 11:00 AM will be as normal. Additional changes to our schedule of events will be communicated through various means (website, social media, bulletin, email, Realm Connect App, etc.).
- We encourage the entire church family to take measures to prevent the spread of illness. Stay at home if you are running a fever, or you suspect you might have a virus.
- Avoid shaking hands. We will be excluding the normal "greeting time" during the worship services for the next few weeks.
- While on the church campus, wash your hands with soap and water and use the hand sanitizer stations located throughout the buildings.
- If you have a compromised immune system, we understand your desire to avoid large crowds and encourage you to remain connected to your church family by joining our online worship experiences live streamed on Facebook. We also have a ministry that will deliver a CD of the sermon to your home if you prefer that over watching on Facebook.

Please be assured that we are taking care to provide a clean place of ministry and worship. Extra care is being taken to ensure that the entire First Baptist Church campus is as safe an environment as we can possibly make it.

Further phases have been discussed and implementation of a higher level of pandemic planning may be necessary at a later date, depending on the spread of Coronavirus in Mississippi.

While we all are taking precautions against the spread of viruses, let us not be paralyzed by a spirit of fear. God is in control. We live by faith in His complete wisdom and sovereignty. Be encouraged by the Word of God:

*Psalm 121:4-8—"Behold, He who keeps Israel shall neither slumber nor sleep. The Lord is your keeper; The Lord is your shade at your right hand. The sun shall not strike by day, nor the moon by night. The Lord shall preserve you from all evil; He shall preserve your soul. The Lord shall preserve your going out and your coming in from this time forth, and even forevermore."*

Blessings!

Pastor Philip