



First Baptist Church

Scott Stokes, Interim Pastor — Jeff Chaffin, Minister of Music & Youth

May 20, 2020

Dear Church Family,

Our church, as well as many other churches, has gone through an unprecedented time in our history. We pray that all our members are doing well and are excited to share that we are in the planning stage to restart our worship time together.

Your Deacon Body and Ministerial Staff has met together and spent much time formulating a plan for us to meet and still be as safe as possible. We want to provide you with all of the information that you need to know and the steps that are being taken so you will be aware of your responsibility in our restart.

◆ We are targeting **Sunday, June 7th, to restart** our Sunday morning worship.

The service will begin at 9:30 am and will be held in our Christian Life Center (CLC) building. The doors will not be unlocked until 9:00 am. This will be the only service we will have to begin with. There will be no Sunday School, no Sunday evenings or Wednesday services for a time. There will also be no Nursery at present time. These services will be added slowly as the COVID numbers decrease.

◆ **Sanitation and Safety**

Our Deacons will meet early in the week to set up and sanitize the worship area and will be responsible for weekly sanitization. We are reminding all our members that if you have had a fever in the previous three days or are displaying any of the COVID symptoms, please stay home. We want to protect all our fellowship from the virus. There will be hand sanitizing stations at each entrance for your use. Masks are not required but are surely invited at each members discretion.

◆ **Parking**

As you arrive, please leave the parking along Walnut Street and next to Hwy 278 directly adjacent to the CLC building for Handicap parking and our Senior Adults. All others please use parking areas beside and in front of the sanctuary or across the street from the sanctuary and walk around. Also, please keep the alley clear so that the doors can be used for pick up an drop off especially during bad weather.

◆ **Entrance**

As you arrive only the three main entrances of the CLC will be open. The CLC porch/kitchen entrance will be locked. The doors will be propped open so that no one will need to touch them. These door will be closed as the service begins, and there will be a Deacon at each entrance for the entire service to let anyone in or out. Please bring no food or drink into the CLC.

◆ **Note: All other building doors will be locked.**

The Sanctuary building and Early Learning Center (ELC) building will be locked. This is by design. We will be using and cleaning the CLC building for worship and the ELC will be using and cleaning the other building for preschool. We do not want to contaminate their space.



Reaching Sulligent — Touching the World

First Baptist Church

Scott Stokes, Interim Pastor — Jeff Chaffin, Minister of Music & Youth

◆ ***Social Distancing***

We ask that you sit together as families. Children and students with their parents. The chairs will be set out in a unique pattern with social distancing in mind. We ask for you to sit in a grouping that fits your size family. You may adjust seating only if needed to suit your family size. Please DO NOT adjust the distance between rows.

◆ ***Limited Restrooms and Sanitation***

We remind you that there will be just one worship time, so please make restroom stops before leaving home. The restrooms will be open but limited to one person at a time with the exception of a parent with a smaller child. Each restroom will have only one stall open for use and one sink open for use. There will be a Deacon and a female outside the restroom area that will sanitize the restroom after each use.

◆ ***Fellowship Time, Offering Collection and Dismissal***

There will be no fellowship time or offering collection during the worship service. After the service is concluded there will be offering plates at each exit for members to place offerings in. At the conclusion of the service we will dismiss in stages so that there will not be any large groups at the exits at the same time. The Deacons will once again prop the doors open. We ask that you please keep social distancing in mind as you walk to your vehicle to leave.

We realize that there will be some who are not yet comfortable with being together in a shared space. Our services will be live streamed during this time on YouTube, our church website, and our Facebook page for these individuals and any others who chose to join us via the internet.

We also realize this is a mountain of information and it places much responsibility on each member. We know this will be different and unique and somewhat inconvenient. However, to what extent are we willing to go to protect those around us? Giving up some conveniences is a small price to pay to be able to worship together in safety. We know that no plan is perfect and just like you we are trying to do something that is brand new to us all. Please know that all of these decisions were made with much prayer and discussion. This entire situation we be revisited on a weekly basis to make sure we are doing what's best for our fellowship.

All of this being said, we are excited about worshipping together once again! We are thankful for how God has been with us so far in this pandemic and for how we have seen Him continue to work and move in our midst. Let's meet together on Sunday, June 7th, and lift praise and worship in Spirit and truth to a God who is worthy!!

God Bless You,
Your Deacon Body & Ministerial Staff

241 Brown St, Sulligent, AL 35586
P. O. Box 217, Sulligent, Alabama 35586
Phone: (205) 698-9610 Fax: (205) 698-8037
E-Mail: firstbchl@centurytel.net