



- THE FRIDAY 5 -
A WEEKLY ANNOUNCEMENT LISTING FOR
FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH

- HILTON HEAD ISLAND -

100 SOUTH FOREST BEACH DRIVE • HILTON HEAD ISLAND, SC 29928

REV. BRETT MYERS, PASTOR

MARCH 20, 2020

Do not grieve, for the joy of the Lord is your strength. Nehemiah 8:10

First Baptist Church Hilton Head Island will have no in-person gatherings, Bible studies, or activities on or off-campus until further notice as requested by our government. We are still the church, and our staff is doing what we can to help you stay connected and in God's Word.

Pastors Brett Myers and Brian Parker are posting videos of devotions and Bible Studies on our facebook page. Our Awana leaders held virtual Awana sessions this week.

Richard Wade has shared information with Sunday School leaders of how they can stay in touch with their classes and yours may be meeting online.

Contact your teacher to see what plans they may be putting into place.

We encourage you to join us online for worship services at 10:30 AM on Sundays via our website or our Facebook page.

**Sunday's Sermon: "An Opportunity to Sabbath," Series: Set Apart
Exodus 20:8-11, Matthew 12:1-12**

Our staff is still available to you. Contact our staff by going to our website at www.fbchhi.org and clicking the Start Here, then Meet the Staff tabs, and then the envelope icon by their name. Other staff contact information is listed at the end of the Pastor's letter below.

We look forward to the time when we can meet as a congregation again.

In the meantime, we are still the Church. Trust God and pray.

A Letter from Pastor Brett Myers COVID-19 Update and Plans

First Baptist Church Hilton Head Island

Tuesday, March 17, 2020

Dear members of First Baptist Church,

Thank you for your wonderful patience with us during this time as we pray through the needed adjustments for ministry due to the COVID-19 outbreak. Our Administrative Council has come to some decisions about how we can best and most appropriately move forward. Let me first say that we have a responsibility, as the Church, to set a good example to the community around us in honoring our authorities, and in doing all that we can to seek to the welfare of the community around us. Our mission is to make Biblical disciples who love, serve, and share the Gospel with all people. We believe that we can still do that for the next two weeks while also honoring the wishes of those in authority over us. Here are the changes our Administrative Council has made in regard to worship services and small groups. Beyond that, I've included additional instruction from myself.

Sunday Worship Services

There will be no in-person gathering for worship on Sundays March 22 or 29. Rather, we will be uploading a worship and message video at 10:30 am each Sunday for you and your family to worship together at home. You

can find this video on our Facebook page and on our website at:

<https://fbchhi.org/watch-live/>. I encourage you to treat this like a normal service, in which you are a participant rather than observer. Tips on how to do that have been posted to our church Facebook page. The message for this Sunday is very timely to this current predicament, so make sure that you tune in!

Small Groups and Meetings

From now until March 31, there will be no in-person meetings, Bible studies, events, or small groups for First Baptist Church, including meetings both on and off campus. We make this decision effective for off campus studies as well with the safety in mind of those who host these studies in their homes, and to honor our authorities as we trust God to lead them in how to take care of us during this time.

However, Brian Parker is working on a small group study that will be emailed to all member families with youth or children. This will follow the same lesson plan that the youth and children's Sunday School material had planned for the next two Sundays.

Also, Richard Wade is emailing some ideas to Adult Sunday School teachers on ways they can continue building community and growing in the Word together for these two weeks.

Financial Giving

The best method for giving during this time is for you to give online, if you have that capability. The link for our online giving is: <https://fbchhi.org/on-line-giving/>. Click on the green "Give Now" button half way down the page, and you can either give a one-time gift, or set up a recurring gift. There is a minimal fee for this service, which you can choose to cover in addition to your tithe, or you can choose to have the church cover this fee ourselves, which pulls it from your tithe amount. Mary Hayes can help you set this up if you need assistance. Her contact info is below.

You can also mail in checks during this time if you do not do online giving. Please stay regular in giving during this time, as we have expenses throughout this predicament, and we could have increased financial needs as we seek to serve both our church community and the community around us.

Office Hours

In cooperation with President Trump's recommendations, I have made the decision to give our staff the opportunity to work from home beginning Wednesday, March 18 through Tuesday, March 31. I believe this is the best decision as we seek to care for and protect our staff and their families. With the technology available today, this is a very easy adjustment for us to make.

Contact Information for Leadership

While you can call the church and leave a message as we are checking them daily, I have included a contact list for our church staff below. Email or text is best, but if you choose to call them, then please do honor their need for rest and sleep. Try to call during normal business hours when possible and please leave a voicemail if there is no answer. If you need help regarding giving financially during this time, call Mary Hayes. If you do not know which of us to call for your need, please call Paulette first.

Staff:

Brett Myers, Pastor - bmyers@fbchhi.org - 843-384-1041

Richard Wade, Minister of Music and Education - rwade@fbchhi.org - 843-301-0430

Brian Parker, Minister of Youth and Young Families - bparker@fbchhi.org - 864-350-3819

Lynda Hopkins, Ministry Assistant - lhopkins@fbchhi.org - 843-683-1702

Paulette Gardner, Receptionist - pgardner@fbchhi.org - 843-338-1813

Mary Hayes, Financial Manager - mhayes@fbchhi.org - 843-384-4396

If you have a need that one of your deacons can meet, please contact your assigned deacon. If you do not know who your deacon is, contact our Deacon Chairman, Curtis Hart, by email at curtishart777@gmail.com or by phone at 843-422-5365. They are ready and willing to serve you!

Further Instruction

Don't waste this time in your life! Don't waste time in an unending downward spiral spent on social media. Don't waste time worrying about things you cannot control. Don't waste time on unhealthy habits. Rather, use this time to improve and deepen relationships with family and friends. Make calls to check in on people and catch up with others. Be a light to the world as you continue about life in a briefly different way, but as you continue to find new ways to express the love of Christ to those around you. Find ways to glorify God in the midst of this "storm."

Watch for another update around March 31, as we determine how our church can best move beyond that time as informed by our governing authorities and agencies. Also watch our Facebook page for regular updates through posts and videos.

Last, be ready for spiritual revival! As people have had the rug pulled out from under them regarding health, financial stability, and job security, I believe people are going to be searching for more on the tail-end of this crisis. As the Church, we need to be ready to point those people to Jesus Christ, the only One in whom they can find lasting and eternal hope and peace.

In Christ,

Pastor Brett Myers