

Dear FBC Family,

These are some crazy, unprecedented times, aren't they? We are all learning how to minister and serve in unique ways each day. As we are all aware, the coronavirus outbreak is a very fluid situation. We learn more and more each day about how this virus spreads and ways that we may be able to prevent it in the coming days. The elders and leadership teams of Fellowship Bible Church are working hard to honor our governing officials by paying heed to their warnings and advice. It is also our desire to keep you in the loop concerning what is and isn't happening related to our church body at FBC.

### **1. No Weekend Gatherings**

Although we will not be holding our regular church services on site for at least through the end of March, we encourage you to collect your healthy family around you and worship with us.

- Our plan is to post services on [fbcbridgeport.org](http://fbcbridgeport.org) as well as the church Facebook page by 10:00 Sunday morning.
- Resources for families/kids will also be made available online through a link that will be provided each week via email.
- Wednesday morning Sam, Jim and Michael will post a COMMUNITY Connecting Point video on our Facebook page and website, as a way to connect and encourage you and your family.

This decision, while bathed in prayer and counsel, was initially a very tough call to make. However, as time goes on, it has become increasingly clear that it was the wisest and most responsible course of action to take. While God has not given us a spirit of fear, he has called us to love our neighbors and to contribute to the welfare of our community. Exercising caution is not merely wise, it is a tangible way of expressing love toward others.

### **2. Other Gatherings and Events**

All official FBC scheduled events will not be meeting until further notice.

Small Groups are encouraged to look into Apps and programs such as ZOOM as alternative options on how to meet in order to stay connected. Our small groups are a great way for us to continue to be the church to each other and to the community during this time.

### **3. Giving**

While we are not able to physically meet each week, our staff will still be hard at work to serve the church body and the mortgage and other monthly bills still need to be paid. As God blesses you financially, your tithes and offerings can be given through the online giving link on the website or you can mail checks to the church office.

### **4. Communication and Prayer**

We realize that there will be needs among our church body and we want to help meet those needs when possible. If you find yourself with a need, financial or otherwise, please contact one of the elders and let us know how we can help you. We would love to know how to pray for each of you as well, so please send us your prayer requests.

Thank you for your prayers, patience and support. We will provide any updates on our website and on our FBC Facebook pages.

While we do not know what will happen as this situation changes, we do know that we can and must pray.

- Pray for the leaders and authorities who are making momentous decisions
- Pray that the medical workers would be equipped to handle any cases with compassion and wisdom

- Pray that the local churches would be a source of love and compassion and a constant Gospel witness.

Let's be faithful in this moment to be the hands and feet of Christ, caring for the sick and pointing people to ultimate hope in him.

We will continue to assess the situation throughout the coming weeks and will communicate a decision regarding when services, small groups and other activities will return to normal.

In Christ,

FBC Elders