



## *Monday Morning Missive*

**Good Monday Morning, church family. I know it's a little bit late in the morning for my missive, but Sonya and I have been out and about putting up the photo booth in front of the church for our Graduating Seniors. Our hope is they will come and pick up their sign, take a picture at the booth, and post it on Facebook for us. If you know any of our seniors, please let them know this is available for them this week.**

**God has been so very good to us, hasn't He? I know that many of you have been through some very trying times over the last 5 weeks or so, but through it all, God has shown up**

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**and taken care of you just as He promised. Right not, I know it's tough to know exactly how to respond to everything going on. It seems that everything is starting to open up again, and the Covid-19 virus also seems to be re-asserting itself in our county and in our state. The governor hasn't given us any idea of what is going to happen concerning the lockdown/reopening of the state's businesses. It's a confusing time with people on both sides of the argument. Let me encourage you today not to be quick to judge others concerning these issues. Some people need to work in order to provide for their families. Others are scared that if we all don't stay home that the virus will get worse. We hear conflicting messages from those who are in authority over our nation, and people are getting frustrated. This is what we as believers need to do. Love God and listen for His guidance for our lives and our families. Love the people around us and pray**

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**for them that the decisions they are making are in line with what God is directing them to do. And then trust our Heavenly Father to take even this and turn it into something good for our lives that will bring glory to Him. He is sovereign! He is Lord!**

**Our Leadership Team (formerly known as the Church Council) will be meeting this week to talk about how we need to move forward in getting back to normal. If you are like me, you can't wait to be able to gather again as a church. But keep in mind that we have many people who are not in a hurry to come together because of their susceptibility to the virus. The LAST thing I want to do is to be the reason that any of you become infected. So, we must be prayerful and we must be gracious as we make our plans. There have been recommendations made by many of our Southern Baptist leaders on how to start back, and we will be discussing those plans**

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**to see how they will work for our church. I promise you this: we will come back together as the body of Christ called First Baptist Church Dadeville as soon as we can do so in ways that will keep all of us safe. Until then, we will continue our online worship, Bible Study, prayer meetings and devotionals. I have heard in recent days that there are some people who don't have internet access. I have tried to get the word out that there is a way to participate in Sunday School and Worship with just an ordinary telephone. It requires a long-distance phone call, but if you have unlimited long distance, it won't matter. We have had one couple to take us up on this, but it is available to as many who are interested. Please help me get the word out to these people.**

**Let me share a few things with you this morning:**

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- **We will Light Up the Darkness again this Friday night at 8 p.m. Turn on all your lights inside and out, open your blinds to let the light out, get your brightest flashlight, and go out into your front yard and shine brightly for the Lord. We will join together on Facebook live to pray for our world.**
  - **Monday, May 4<sup>th</sup>, we will begin an online marriage enrichment group to help improve your marriage. Some of you need it after being together so much in recent weeks. (That was an attempt at humor.) We all need it. If you want to participate, let me know. It will be an 8 – 10 week class based on an assessment you will need to complete before we start. The cost is only \$35 per couple, and that is for the assessment.**
  - **We will be doing an online New Members' Class in the next two weeks. I need to see how many are interested in signing up so**
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**we can get it scheduled. Remember, all new members since January of this year must complete the class.**

**Please know that your church staff is working hard to stay in touch with all of you, but if you have a need, please let me know. Keep watching for some new things coming to you through our social media platforms. And finally, pray. Pray for our lost and hurting world. Pray that they will see the light of God's love shining through us in Dadeville and around the world. Pray for a great spiritual awakening to result due to all that's going on in our world today. Pray.**

**I love you, my church family, and I am praying for you today.**

**Bro. Ben**



