



Monday Morning Missive

Good morning, church family. Can you believe the beautiful day God created just for us today? I am always amazed by how God's blessings are so evident in the songs the birds sing and the antics of the squirrels and so many other things we see when we look around this beautiful place where we live. It reminds me of His marvelous grace that He has given to us – so evident in the ways that He shows His love for us every day. You know, even with all the frustration that has come from this Covid-19 craziness, we can still see God's mercies in what He has done. Let me ask you this? Has your life calmed down a good bit since all of this started. Sometimes God has a way to make us “be still and know that [He] is God.”

We are getting closer and closer to the time for our church to reopen and begin meeting together, but the time is not yet. The church staff will be back in the offices at full force today, but the office will remain closed to the public. If you NEED to come in, we will let you in, but we are encouraging you to take care of all the business with us that you can by phone and e-mail. Your Leadership Team is continuing to meet and make plans for how and when we will reopen, following the guidelines provided by our Governor. I know that many of you are concerned about starting back even with the Governor's blessings. Please know that we will not judge you if you choose to stay home even when we open. Continue to avail yourselves of our online offerings, but also, I ask you not to judge those who are ready to start back. Our plans – still tentative – will include options that will allow social distancing in our sanctuary (multiple smaller worship services) as well as a

drive up option if our FM transmitter ever arrives. We want everyone to feel safe, so we will be working on plans to sanitize the church frequently. There are lots of ideas out there, and I would love to know your thoughts about when and how we should reopen. Please send me an e-mail with what is on your heart.

We are continuing to have great response to our online worship, Bible Study, Prayer Meeting, and devotional thoughts. Please know that all of us appreciate your feedback. If you are a teacher, you understand how important that is. We aren't able to get it from you in real time (during the actual event), so please let us know what you are thinking. If you have ideas for additional ways we can meet needs online, please let me know.

I am excited about some new things we are doing because of social distancing. We started the online "Thought for the Day." We have a

new podcast coming out weekly to discuss the Sunday sermon in detail. You can find a link to that on Facebook or you can download Spotify and search for FBC Dadeville. We are having thousands of views on all of our combined activities, so that has a potential for great Kingdom impact. Our plan is to continue doing these kinds of things. In fact, tonight, I will be starting an online group marriage enrichment time. My hope is to put together an online New Members/Prospective Members class that any of you would be welcome to join. God has shown us as a church staff that we have many avenues available to us to increase our ministry to you and to our community.

I have a crazy invitation for you this morning as I wrap this up. Sonya has a milestone birthday this Saturday. Let me just say that it includes a 6 and a 0. Since I can't have the big birthday party for her, I thought about the alternative. I am going to have a Zoom birthday

party at 10 a.m. on Saturday. Now this means you will need to get your own birthday cake or doughnut for your family (the added benefit is this will be very inexpensive for me) and then login to our Zoom meeting by clicking on this link: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86165392819?pwd=dVVyTjJmc0NiNFBHVHhQZGNWSUVrQT09>. If you are asked for a password, it is 443630. We will sing happy birthday, let Sonya blow out her candles, and just have a fun time sharing in this special moment. After the restrictions are lifted, we will have a big cake as a church family to celebrate. I will send out the invitation again later in the week, but this is just a head up for you all.

Thank you for being so willing to try new things. You are truly the church that shines the light of Jesus' love in Dadeville.

Love you guys,
Bro. Ben

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