

Thursday's Thoughts

Good afternoon, church family. I wanted to let you know that I did not do a Monday Morning Missive this week. Call this one a Thursday Thoughts. We were closed on Monday for the 4th of July, and Tuesday was a very full day. So, as we are wrapping up this week and getting ready for the weekend, I wanted to take a few minutes and catch everyone up on where we are and what we are doing.

First, we will be continuing our 3 Sunday morning on-campus worship services for the foreseeable future. Sunday School will remain online except for those classes that have chosen to come in and use the sanctuary during the week. Wednesday will be our day for the Men's Bible Study and Prayer Meeting with no children or youth activities. Barring any Covid-19 flareups, we will continue with this schedule until it becomes safe to bring everyone back together in classes. As I have

said before, we may be looking at 2021 before that happens because we want to be as safe as possible while providing everyone with the opportunity for worship and Bible Study.

Sadly, we had to make a difficult decision today. We will not have Vacation Bible School this year. In my 39 years of ministry, I have never gone a year without VBS, but we could not in good conscience risk the health and well-being of our children and volunteers. Bro. Forrest and his crew will continue to provide quality offerings online, and our hope is that you will embrace this new format with your family.

One more thing. I haven't said a lot about finances since all of this has started because God has been so good to us and you have been so faithful in your giving. I know that the monotony of life sometimes causes us to lose track and forget to drop our tithes in the basket

or get online to give or mail it in. Just know that your church is still full steam ahead doing ministry to our members and to our community, and our staff is the best I've ever worked with in all of my years. Please keep supporting us as we serve together to do the Father's will.

We have a number of our families in the grip of this horrible virus. We have lost some of our church family because of this virus. Please join me in praying for healing for those who have it, comfort for those who have lost loved ones, and strength for our front-line workers who are going out there every day to keep us safe and healthy. And remember, a simple phone call goes a long way in encouraging people who are tired, afraid, worried, or sick. "Do unto others as you would have them do unto you." That's not just the Golden Rule; it's love.

Hope to see or hear from you soon, Bro. Ben

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