MEMO-2 Concerning Covid-19 Update First Baptist Church, Okmulgee March 17,2020

As our world is reeling from the invasion of the Coronavirus, God's people have an unparalleled opportunity to display faith, calm and care to the world while giving witness to the greatness and love of our God. The Song writer wrote many years ago, "Be not dismayed what ere betide, God will take care of you..." Peter reminds us to "cast all our cares on Him because he cares for you." (1 Pet. 5:7)

God's people through the centuries have known that challenging times are often opportune times. This is the time for the church to be the church! We can be the ones who love, care and minister to our world. It is important for each of us to keep our eyes open for needs and ways that we can serve others.

For the next few weeks we will follow the suggestion of our leaders and refrain from large group meetings. Our worship will be live streamed as usual at 10:30 AM Sunday. We encourage you to worship in your homes and invite friends to share with you. What a great opportunity to reach out. We will have no Bible Studies at the church. Home groups exercise wisdom and discretion as you decide what is best for your group. We do not know how long this will last. It is a very fluid situation and we monitor daily.

Continue to be prayerful. We will continue to share prayer requests as needed and look to provide prayer opportunities for you to join with Staff and/or Deacons to pray. These will be streamed on our website and on Facebook-Live for you and your family to join us in praying through these times. We will let you know as these are available.

As with Sundays, we will have no Wednesday evening activities at this time. Again we will let all know when we can resume.

Our offices continue to be open each day. We have created a special email for people who need help. If you need help or see those who do, please contact us via phone (918-756-7880) or email us at help@fbcokmulgee.org.

I know that you will continue to be great stewards with your gifts. You will find online giving at fbcokmulgee.org or can mail in your gifts through the postal service. I know that you will continue to be faithful with your giving as we seek to serve our Lord through these days. I remember the words of my good friend and prayer partner for many years Rob Barris, "God's people always rise to the need and usually give more instead of less."