

Dear Church Family,

It's hard to believe that it has been less than a week since we last gathered for our Sunday evening service. To conclude that service, we sang:

*God be with you till we meet again,  
By His counsels guide, uphold you,  
With His sheep securely fold you,  
God be with you till we meet again.*

Though it might have been evident to some, it did not at the time feel like that would be the last hymn we would sing as a gathered body for some time, but it now appears that is the case. ***Given the latest information about the spread of this virus, the latest government guidance, and prayer-sought wisdom, we have determined that it is in the best interest of the members of the church to suspend our in-person gathering for Sunday worship for at least the next two weeks.***

Over the course of this week, we have been working to gear up our technological and live-streaming capabilities in order to be able to continue to serve the spiritual needs of the church from afar. While we are still working out some of the details of how we plan to meet those needs, we can tell you some details about this Sunday's worship service so you can know what to expect.

Our aim is not to merely replicate what we normally do on a Sunday morning, we do not want to put on a show that you simply observe from the comfort of your own couch. Many of you have already communicated with us that you dearly miss the gathered body of saints, and that is as it should be. We cannot provide you with what you get during our normal gathering over the internet, because a necessary element of corporate worship is the saints gathered. Therefore, we ask that you make every effort to be an active participant in the worship service on Sunday.

What that will look like this Sunday includes singing along with the songs we are singing. [A copy of the bulletin is available here](#), which will have all the music we will be singing this week included, and if you would like to come by the church and pick up a hard copy, we will have those available as well outside the office door. We will also ask that during our normal times of prayer, including the prayer of confession and the prayer after the scripture reading, that someone in your home, preferably the father if you are in a family setting, leads those prayers

for the family. We will allow a period of silence in the service for you to do this. In this way, you will be taking a more active and participatory role in our abnormal worship service.

Over the coming week, we will have more opportunities to gather in this new virtual format. On the weekdays, Tim will lead a 15 minute lunchtime devotion at noon called Feeding on the Word. Our prayer meeting will continue to be broadcast on Wednesday nights so we can have the church praying in unison for the most pressing needs we are aware of.

Again, we ask for your continued patience and prayers during this time, much about our circumstance can change from week to week and day to day, but our God does not change. We encourage you to contact us if you know of anyone with needs that we can meet as we continue to be salt and light in our community. If you need help locating the live-stream broadcasts, please let us know, but most events will be live-streamed simultaneously on the [Ferguson Avenue Baptist Church Facebook](#) page and the [Ferguson Avenue Baptist Church YouTube Channel](#). We will also continue to add new content on the church website so that those of you who are home, can utilize those resources and links for spiritual enrichment. And as always, please do not hesitate to contact us if you have any questions.

May God be with you till we meet again.