## Second Missionary BAPTIST CHURCH

818 Apperson Way North | Kokomo, Indiana 46901 Church: 765-452-8214 | Fax: 765-457-7033 | www.smbchurch.com Rev. Dr. William J. Smith, Jr. – Pastor

**APRIL 3, 2020** 

#### Dear SMBC Family:

I deeply miss seeing everyone in person but am enjoying looking at the 2016 Pictorial Church Directory, pictures and videos, to see your smiling faces. I just wanted to take this time to share with you several updates. I encourage you to remain vigilant and informed of this ever evolving crisis and be prayerfully led to walk in faith, not fear, but also in wisdom protecting your health, the health of those you love and live with, and being responsible in helping stop the spread of this virus.

Please follow the instructions of our governmental leaders. Social guidelines for physical distancing and gathering have been nationally extended until April 30th. As of today, Gov. Holcomb and our City & County Leadership are strongly advising only essential travel and contact with others outside of home. With this information we have decided the following:

- All in person gatherings for the month of April are canceled. Communion is also postponed.
- There will be no funeral services held at SMBC facilities. All services will be grave side with the option of a memorial service at a later date.
- I will be engaging with all ministry leaders on a conference call Monday, April 13 at 6PM, to update and answer questions for special ministry activities beyond that date. Details for this meeting will be distributed.
- The Summer Student program is on hold for this year.
- SCHOLARSHIPS AND RECOGNITION FORMS ARE AVAILABLE:
   Parents and students are encouraged to review and complete Scholarship and Recognition forms found on our website (www.smbchurch.com). Copies can be made available for pick up by calling our church office.

While saddened that we will not be able to gather physically, we believe the health and safety of our community is a top priority. Remember, this does not mean that we will take a break from church!

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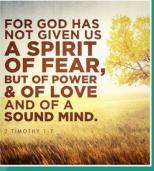
# How Should I Respond Spiritually to the Coronavirus (COVID-19)

For God hath not given us the spirit of fear; but of power, and of love, and of a sound mind. 2 Timothy 1:7

We know that God is sovereign, and He is paying attention to us. He grieves more than we do when things like this occur. So, let's keep trusting in Him and seeking His guidance as we manage our way through this crisis. God can use us during this time of challenge. May He find us faithful!

Here are some practical suggestions:

- Pray for God's intervention in the crisis. Ask God for wisdom for our leaders, health care officials, and others who are making crucial decisions that affect the lives of others.
- Pray for those who are sick. Ask God for His healing power, mercy, and grace for those in need due to this outbreak.
- If you are healthy, seek opportunities to help those who are most vulnerable right now. Can you serve a neighbor who may not be able to get to the pharmacy? Can you deliver food or other necessary items to those who may not be able to care for themselves?



- Build Community. We want everyone in our church family to think of at least five people that you will commit to stay in touch with (calls, texts, e-mails), Pray for, Encourage and Reach out to.
- Stay connected to your church. Join us for the following virtual experiences:
- o Sunday School Lesson Review at 10:30AM (Sundays)
- o Sundays at 11AM for Worship
- o Wednesdays at 12NOON for POPUP Prayer and Praise

These experiences are available by phone and Facebook Live (see enclosed details). Our weekly Sunday Services are also added to our church website (www.smbchurch.com) and our You-Tube Channel. We apologize for past technical difficulties but assure you that we are constantly working out the glitches to make this experience most enjoyable. Thanks so much for your patience.

Weekly devotions are also available for pickup on Saturdays (10AM – 12Noon) or online on our church website and Facebook.

# IS THE CHURCH OFFICE OPEN ON WEEKDAYS?

Our office is currently closed. If you have a question, a need or a prayer request, email us at office@smbchurch.com or leave a voicemail message at 765-452-8214. We will be checking messages periodically. Also, I will be in the office Tuesdays and Thursdays (10AM – 12Noon). You can drop by to visit or call for prayer.

Also, during this time we ask that if you have questions or concerns or need any assistance please contact your Shepherding Deacon (see below). Remember your Deacon is selected by the first letter of your Last Name. Also, the Mighty Men of Second has a group of young men who can assist with running errands and taking care of various needs. Contact your Shepherding Deacon for information.

	Household Member's	Last Name
	Shepherding Unit (	Group I
A - F	Demetrius Johnson	765-437-0475
	Michael R. Peters	765-210-4241
	Shepherding Unit C	Group II
G-L	Ben Anglin	765-271-7322
	Clarence Grier	765-437-4841
	Shepherding Unit G	roup III
M - R	Edward E. McCarter	765-210-4808
	Troy L. Walker	765-480-3838
	Shepherding Unit G	roup IV
S - Y	Fred D. King	765-457-2719
	Billy Wiley	765-457-3014
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#### **HOW CAN I GIVE?**

## HOW CAN I GIVE?

"Bring the whole tithe into the storehouse, that there may be food in my house. Test me in this," says the Lord Almighty, "and see if I will not throw open the floodgates of heaven and pour out so much blessing that there will not be room enough to store it."

Malachi 3:10

Your giving makes it possible for us to continue serving our community through the crisis. We were blessed to recently provide missions support of over \$10k to our foreign and local missions partners.

Thanks for your continued giving and support.

You can give in the following ways:

- Download the Givelify App using your phone's app store or click the "Online Giving" link on our website.
- Drop by the church on Saturdays (10AM to 12Noon). Deacons will be available to receive your gifts.
- Mail: SMBC, 818 N Apperson Way, Kokomo, IN 46901





### INTRODUCING GIVELIFY, SMBC'S NEW ONLINE GIVING APP!



### How to Make Your First Donation with the Givelify App

- 1. Download the free Givelify app from the App Store or Google Play and create your account.
- 2. Tap My Place of Worship. If you are within a 2-mile radius of SMBC, you can use the Nearby tab and find your organization on the GPS map. You can also find SMBC by tapping the Search tab, selecting Places of Worship, and searching for Second Missionary Baptist Church at 818 N Apperson Way, Kokomo, Indiana 46901.
- 3. Tap the Give To button.
- 4. Save SMBC as your default recipient by tapping the heart icon next to My Place of Worship.
- 5. Tap Give.
- 6. Tap desired amount or Other (enter any amount over \$0.50).
- 7. Tap the envelope next to the desired donation category (example: Tithe).

- 8. Tap Add Donation, Add Memo, or Set Recurring, if desired.
- 9. Tap Give Now.
- 10. A pop-up will prompt you to Sign Up or Sign In. Tap Sign Up and select Sign-in with Facebook or Sign Me Up by E-Mail.
- 11. If you choose Sign Me Up by E-mail, enter your name, email, and password, then tap Sign Me Up. An email will be sent to the address provided with an activation link. In the app, tap Continue. (Note: You can make your first donation before clicking the activation link, so feel free to tap Cancel when you are prompted with a reminder of the activation email.)
- 12. Enter credit or debit card payment information and tap Give Now. The light green button will turn dark green when your payment information is complete.
- 13. Tap Open Page in Givelify for receipt. SMBC will also include Givelify donations on your annual contribution statement.

#### How to Make Givelify Donation After First Time

- 1. Tap the Givelify app on your smart phone.
- 2. Tap Give.
- 3. Tap desired amount or Other (enter any amount over \$0.50)
- 4. Tap the envelope next to the desired donation category (example: Tithe).
- 5. Click Add Donation, Add Memo, or Set Recurring, if desired.
- 6. Tap Give Now.
- 7. Tap Open Page in Givelify for receipt. SMBC will also include Givelify donations on your annual contribution statement.

# HOW CAN I BETTER UNDERSTAND THE CORONAVIRUS (COVID-19)

The best source of information will be the Center for Disease Control and Intervention (CDC). Enter this link for the latest information: https://www.coronavirus.gov/ or for specific Indiana information: https://coronavirus.in.gov/.

# WHAT PRECAUTIONS IS SMBC TAKING TO KEEP OUR CHURCH SAFE?

SMBC is taking extra precautions at this time. We have a team meeting weekly made up of risk management leadership of our congregation as well as healthcare professionals. This team is working on things to do as we are going through this pandemic and will also have updated plans of action for the days ahead. Please pray for them as they receive wisdom and knowledge to tackle this.

Prior to our joining back together in worship, please be assured a thorough deep cleaning of our facilities will occur with modifications to our programming and worship.

#### Some specifics are:

- Wiping down all common area touchpoints (e.g., doors, light switches, countertops, chairs, pews, etc.) throughout the day with a disinfectant.
- Placing hand sanitizers in common areas throughout the buildings.
- Performing added in-depth cleaning of our facilities on a regular basis.
- Ensuring masks and gloves are available.





#### **STAY CONNECTED**









#### **WORSHIP LIVE AT 11AM**

EACH SUNDAY IN APRIL AT 11AM

### HOW TO USE CONFERENCE CALL FOR WORSHIP SERVICES

- 1.DIAL 1-571-317-3122
- 2. Enter Access Code 309-979-005 #
- 3. When asked for a PIN, Press # again
- 4.CONGRATULATIONS: YOU SHOULD BE ENTERED INTO CALL!
- 5.If you have problems, getting in please contact Deacon Michael R. Peters (765-210-4241) or Deacon Clarence Grier (765-437-4841).



- 1. FROM OUR WEBSITE: SMBCHURCH.COM
- 2. CLICK HERE (see arrow) TO GET TO OUR FACEBOOK PAGE (TAG IS: @smbchurch1887)
- 3. IF YOU DO NOT HAVE FACEBOOK, NO WORRIES, JUST CLICK "NOT NOW" (when asked to login/signup) and you will see the FACEBOOK LIVE POST
- 4. ENJOY!

#### **MISCELLANEOUS**



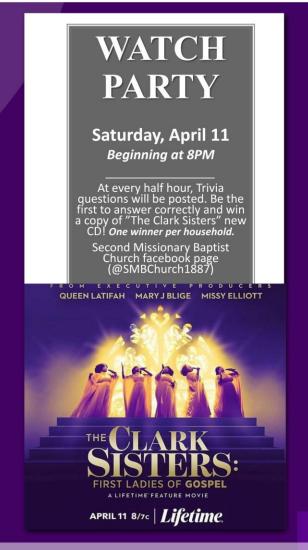
#### **COMPLETE THE CENSUS!**

Please use this time to complete the US Census. The 2020 Census will ask a few simple questions about you and everyone who is or will be living with you on April 1, 2020. You can complete it using the following methods:

- Phone: 1-844-330-2020
- · Online: my2020census.gov
- Homes that have not already responded will receive a paper questionnaire in mid-April.

Counting everyone helps communities receive funding needed for health care, education, emergency services, and more. Over the next decade, lawmakers, business owners, and many others will use 2020 Census data to make critical decisions in our communities.







#### Sunday School Lesson Review

Sundays at 10:30AM

•Dial: 1-571-317-3122

·Code: 309-979-005



#### **BEWARE!**

Please keep yourselves safe at home. Be alert for scam calls and even persons knocking at your door. Do not give anyone your financial information or Social Security number who is calling. I implore you to stay in your homes as much as possible, be diligent in washing your hands, be safe when venturing outside, be patient when shopping for supplies, and most importantly remain prayerful. God will see us though this pandemic.

We are grateful for the individuals in our congregation who are working hard behind the scenes to keep our congregation in contact, Deacons, Trustees, Ministers, Music Ministry, Audio Visual Team, Church Staff, etc.

This is a challenging, ever-changing situation. We cannot project into the future, so we are going day-by-day and trying to be as thoughtful and responsive as possible. Any changes that are to the benefit of our members/congregation, and in the interest of public health, we will enact without hesitation. Be sure to check out our Facebook page and website for new updates as things can change quickly. Each registered member should be receiving our message alerts. If you are not receiving our weekly phone call messages from Call Multiplier, please let us know so we might update our system. Thanks.

Though we are planning to be proactive in the area of caution in which we naturally proceed with this, let it not obscure the complete trust we have in God. God is still in control!

#### **LET US PRAY**

Have you not known? Have you not heard? The Lord is the everlasting God, the Creator of the ends of the earth. He does not faint or grow weary; his understanding is unsearchable. He gives power to the faint, and strengthens the powerless. Even youths will faint and be weary, and the young will fall exhausted; but those who wait for the Lord shall renew their strength, they shall mount up with wings like eagles, they shall run and not be weary, they shall walk and not faint. Isaiah 40:28-31 NRSV

#### **LET US PRAY:**

Gracious God, we are so grateful that there is no storm we encounter that you cannot handle. We are on a journey of faith and discovery with you. Enable us now to trust that where you lead us, you also protect us. We rest in that confidence. In the matchless name that is above every name, the name of Jesus, we pray. Amen.

Together let us live out our faith in these difficult times by trusting God and loving all of God's people. Stay safe!

Stay encouraged! This too will pass! May the Joy of the Lord be your strength!

Grace and Peace,

Rev. Dr. William J. Smith, Jr. Pastor