

Friendship Baptist Church

1391 Sykesville Road -- Sykesville, Maryland 21784 -- 410-442-5506 -- www.fbcmd.org

Dear Friendship Family and Friends, March 16, 2020

We are all prayerfully reaching out to God for His intervention in this global pandemic. Thank you for your prayers and partnership. Let's not forget that it is His healing grace that is most important in the fight. We recommend you pray often and seek the Lord in unity about these matters:

1. Ask God, in His mercy, to stop this pandemic and save lives – not only in our community, but around the world, especially in places that are unequipped medically to deal with the virus. (Isaiah 59:1-2)
2. Pray for President Donald Trump, Vice President Pence, Governor Larry Hogan & other leaders in our community and throughout the world. Pray for wisdom to direct us in the best means for prevention & care. (Rom 13:1-4)
3. Scripture says – ***“teach us to number our days carefully so that we may develop wisdom in our hearts.”*** Pray that the Lord will give us wisdom in this moment to ward off fear as the foundations of our society are shaken. Pray that others will realize how fragile life is and how real eternity is, and they would see their need to turn to God. (Psalm 90:12)
4. Ask God to protect our missionaries and their families around the globe, using this global crisis to advance His Good News to the whole world. Especially remember our missionary friends: Martha Colwell (Rwanda), Kelly and Laura Sager (Tanzania), and David and Andrea Rogers (South Asia). (Mark 16:15)

Here at the FBC facility, your staff is investigating the best ways to lead you and serve with you. You may have seen our on-line Sunday message this past weekend. We will continue that approach and are looking for ways to enhance it.

That is only one of the ways we strive to reach out to your needs. We are investigating the best way to deliver weekly Group Bible studies. We are keeping regular office hours so we can respond to you as safety allows. Regretfully, for the time being, we have had to limit access to the church facility to Staff only. However, we look forward to talking with you on the phone and through other online means during this pandemic. Please call us, email us, text us. We want to be as available to you as best we can.

Besides prayer, what else can you do?

Please regularly check your email because that is one of the ways we reach out to you. If you didn't get any emails from us this weekend, send an email to frndship@wecare.org so we can add you to the distribution list.

Check up on neighbors who are older or at greater risk. Make sure they are okay and find out if they need anything.

Remember that the church needs your financial support to continue functioning. Our weekly budget need, which we all approved last December, is \$17,257.00. This virus does not curtail our duty to pay our mortgages, utility bills, salaries, and fund our commitments to missions in our community and around the world. You can mail us your offering (1391 Sykesville Rd. 21784), or you can consider going to <http://www.fbcmd.org> where you will find our webpage and a link for on-line giving. This is also a great source of information from the church.

Please know that your staff is keenly aware of the uncertainty that we are all living through. Concern is being felt by many of you about health, loved ones, paychecks, lost business, bills.... the list is long. We understand and more importantly God understands. **Please contact us if you need us 410 442 5506 .**

Psalm 121:1-3... “I look to the mountains; where will my help come from? 2 My help will come from the Lord, who made heaven and earth. 3 your protector is always awake.”

Thank you for your faithfulness. Please continue to practice good habits (see above) and keep yourself and your family safe. We are all walking this journey together.

Looking To Jesus,



Pastor Mark Massey – Senior Pastor
Associate Pastors John Hevey, Mark Klimovitz and Neville Johnson

"Washing your hands alone is probably a 50 percent reduction in virus transmission," Oz said. "It's a DIY vaccine ... it's that powerful ... that's the best way to stay out of it ... but," he emphasized, "the most important thing is social distancing."

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— Dr. Oz, 'Fox & Friends'

