

We would like to give a huge THANK YOU to the entire FIRST family who confirmed during this first weekend of the Coronavirus pandemic response that we are truly a G.R.E.A.T Church. Our leadership team, ministries and congregation were first class, flexible and spirit filled as we went forward with worship under difficult circumstances. We also want to shout out the many who joined us via live stream at either 9:15am or 11:15am on Sunday.

Our response to the Coronavirus pandemic continues to be fluid as both federal and state government along with the CDC articulate new mandates every day. We are on top of all new developments and continue to huddle with our professional staff each day to make the necessary decisions going forward that will enable the safety of our congregations, families and community.

Based on the newest mandates/recommendations from the Governor and CDC, we are proactively modifying our normal ministry activities in the following ways:

1. Effective Tuesday March 17, 2020, we are suspending all small group meetings, TNT, rehearsals and ministry meetings until March 31, 2020. We will reassess and recommunicate at that time.
2. We will NOT have in person worship on this Sunday March 22nd, 2020. We will be live streaming at 9:15am and 11:15am with just our pastors, staff and small worship team. We are asking you to join us in our (First Baptist South Richmond app) FIRST APP and/or on Facebook for these virtual worship experiences. We are already excited about how GOD is going to move virtually this coming Sunday. Please start watch parties on Facebook on your personal pages to help us reach the masses. Consecration to 21 Days of Intention will take place through our live stream.

3. We are asking each member of our congregation to download the FIRST APP and if you have already done so, please assist five (5) others in our congregation to do the same. We particularly need our technically savvy members to assist our seniors so they can participate virtually as well.

4. We are asking each member to worship through giving just after the preached WORD by (1) accessing the GIVING tab in the app (2) going to Givelify (3) texting give to 804-294-2218. If you prefer to securely drop off your tithe or offering in person. The lobbies of both campuses will open this Thursday and Friday from 11am-1pm and again from 5pm-7pm. Ministry must go on even in this challenging time, so we thank GOD's people in advance for their continued generosity. Remember, Generosity is our response to the goodness of GOD in our lives!

5. All Culinary Activity will at both campuses will be temporarily suspended until further notice. Our administrative offices will remain open during this time.

We realize that this pandemic is "throwing off our rhythm" as a church family and inconveniencing our lives at home, but as we stated on Sunday, WE WILL GET THROUGH THIS TOGETHER. Let us all be reminded of Psalm 46 that confirms for us that "God is our refuge and our strength, an ever-present help in a time of trouble." No matter what the news reports say, we will continue to TRUST GOD! Please continue to pray for your pastors, your church, our community, our nation and our world as navigate to the other side of this pandemic together.

Always your pastors In HIS Service,
Drs. Dwight and Derik Jones