

To Our Broadview Family and Friends,

We've been closely tracking the news of the Coronavirus (COVID-19) both locally and globally. As you're likely aware, there are numerous confirmed cases in Chicago and the surrounding suburbs. While we know this virus is primarily spread through close contact, we want to take precautionary measures to create a safe and healthy environment for us all to gather and worship at BMBC. Before we get into the details of our action plans, we want to speak first to our faith as Christ followers.

For many, the spread of this virus has caused fear and anxiety. Scripture is clear that God has given us a spirit of love, not fear. It is our prayer that we would sense peace in the midst of these circumstances. This does not mean we should be careless or reactionary; rather, may we work together to serve our church and community in a way that demonstrates trust in our God who is in control. If anyone needs prayer, please call the church and your request will be addressed immediately.

Effective Sunday, March 15, BMBC will be closed until further notice. All church activities are suspended. We can never suspend "church" but we are simply altering the ways that we will be the Church in these unusual times.

CURRENT STATUS & PROCEDURES

We have several ministries at BMBC that are monitoring updates from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) - Federal, State and local officials. BMBC will follow all required mandates. Here are some precautions we are taking immediately to increase health measures and mitigate the spread of germs.

As always, the maintenance staff will continue to conduct daily and regular cleaning of our sanctuary, fellowship hall, classrooms, offices and restrooms throughout the week prior to and post event usage. BMBC has scheduled a "deep clean" of our entire church with our outside commercial cleaning contractor. We will adjust and reinforce our cleaning practices and policies on how we clean our building to ensure a clean, safe and sanitary environment to comply with CDC by:

- Increasing the frequency of cleaning assignments, particularly in the restrooms, all high touch-points and drinking fountains
- Wiping down all touch-points with EPA Grade 99.9% disinfectant
- Checking and ensuring soap dispensers in all restrooms of the church are full
- Placing signage throughout the building and restrooms on proper techniques for hand washing and sanitation
- Dispensing 80% alcohol in hand sanitizers and bottles

Once we do re-open, our balcony will be re-opened for members who want additional space in their seating until we feel this crisis is under control.

BAPTISMS

Baptism is a sacred part of our faith journey, however all Baptisms are suspended until after our “deep clean” and the church re-opens. We have always made the necessary investments to improve the water quality of our baptismal pool system to make it a safer environment.

TITHES & OFFERING

We will continue and expect our members to be faithful to God’s word in their giving. We encourage you to take full advantage of the several options available for giving your tithe and offerings such as:

1. On-line giving thru texting - Text 73256 (message BMBC) this will take you to the link to make a donation.
2. On-line giving thru the BMBC website - click on the ‘Donate’ button at the top of the screen or the ‘Give a Donation’ button at the bottom of the screen.
3. Setup Bill Payment thru your bank from your checking or savings account.
4. Mail in a check to the Church
5. Drop off a check Monday -Friday 9AM - 4:30PM & Saturday 9AM -12PM. The drop box is near the receptionist desk on the east side of the Church.
6. On the back of the Weekly Bulletin use the QR code to get the link to donation (follow the steps).

COMMUNION

When we return back to our Communion schedule, we will implement the use of individual pre-packed capsules with the wafer on top and juice at the bottom.

GREETING & ALTAR CALL

When we have a time for greetings during our services, we recommend that you greet each other with smiles and waves instead of handshakes. During the Altar Call, please remain in your pew for the intercessory prayer.

WE ENCOURAGE YOU TO REMAIN STEADFAST:

As mentioned earlier, you must continue your Christian walk in Faith even though our regular church services have been suspended. Continue with your daily prayers and the study of God’s word (Bible, Sunday and Tuesday school lessons). Continue to rely on your small groups for spiritual encouragement by remaining in contact. Even though the physical building of our church may be closed, God’s word remains stronger than ever.

We also encourage you to take some time to understand proper prevention measures to avoid spreading the virus by reading through the CDC recommendations here but also visit their website at <https://www.cdcgov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/community/home/index.html>.

Here are some of the basic measures listed on the CDC website:

- Avoid close contact with people who are sick.
- Avoid touching your eyes, nose, and mouth.
- Stay home when you are sick.
- Cover your cough or sneeze with a tissue, then throw the tissue in the trash.
- Clean and disinfect frequently touched objects and surfaces using a regular household cleaning spray or wipe.
- Wash your hands often with soap and water for at least 20 seconds, especially after going to the bathroom; before eating; and after blowing your nose, coughing, or sneezing.
- If soap and water are not readily available, use an alcohol-based hand sanitizer with at least 60% alcohol. Always wash hands with soap and water if your hands are visibly dirty.

We will provide necessary updates to you via email and post them on the church's website at www.broadviewbaptist.org. We ask that you be prayerful for our world, community and church, specifically for those who are directly impacted by this virus. We will be praying for you and looking forward to being together again.

May God Bless and Keep You!

Broadview Missionary Baptist Church