

Church Family,

I want to give you an update on how we are addressing the Coronavirus situation at First Baptist Mt. Healthy. We've been working on a game plan for the past week and are prepared to weather the storm together. Thank you for your understanding and encouragement as we navigate these unique circumstances. We are doing everything we can to protect our congregation and to love our neighbor well.

Based on the recommendations of government officials and medical professionals, **we will not hold Sunday morning or any weekly activities until Sunday April 5.** We will, however, continue to offer an online worship service through our website and Facebook page. Our online engagement from this past Sunday was great, and we look forward to offering engaging and encouraging Sunday worship services through the end of March. We will reassess the situation over the next two weeks and communicate our plan for April in the near future. Our hope is to gather for worship on Palm Sunday (April 5) or Easter Sunday (April 12).

Here's how you can help over the next two weeks:

- **Be a positive and reassuring voice in our community.** We are not motivated by fear or compromise. We are, however, motivated by a strong commitment to love our neighbors as ourselves, which means that we need to take preventative actions that will slow the spread of COVID-19 and expedite the recovery process. Your voice of encouragement and grace will provide a calming, unifying presence in our community that is desperately needed in these days of confusion and anxiety. Proverbs 25:11 says, "**A word spoken at the right time is like gold apples in silver settings.**" We have the hope of the gospel, the hope of a sovereign God who is in control of all things, and the hope of a loving Father who cares for his children. Let's focus our energy on loving, encouraging, and communicating this hope with those around us.
- **Let us know about any specific ministry needs you or your family experience.** Our staff and ministry team leaders are focused on how we can serve our community during this time, and we are excited about some unique opportunities to be salt and light. If we can serve you or your family in any way, please don't hesitate to reach out. Moreover, if you have a prayer request, you can send it to us anytime at steven@firstlife.church
- **Give and participate online!** We will not gather for in-person worship over the next two weeks, but the ministry of First Baptist will carry on. We can't minister locally and around the world without the faithful giving and generosity of our members, so please set up online giving or mail your gifts to the church office. Also, don't forget The Annie Armstrong Offering. The ministries of our mission board, particularly church planters, rely on this offering for their support throughout the year. This is a great time to set up a recurring gift, which is the most effective way for you to partner with us in our efforts to fulfill the Great Commission. Here are the ways you can give:
 - Give online: www.firstlife.church - go to the GIVE TAB
 - Give via mail: 1210 Compton Road, Cincinnati OH 45231

Thank you for the privilege of serving alongside of you during this current season of ministry at First Baptist. I am so excited about how the Lord is at work in our community and beyond. We rest in the promise of Jesus, who assured us that He will build His church, and the gates of hell will not overpower it (Matthew 16:18).

In HIM,
First Baptist Church STAFF