

The Sanctuary

"Where Christ is Center...Crises Cease"

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To the Members, Family, and Friends of the Sanctuary,

First, pray.

As Senior Pastor of The Sanctuary for over 30 years, I take full responsibility for the health, safety, and well-being of our congregation—not just spiritually but also physically. Therefore, to address the growing concern over the Coronavirus (COVID-19), I have made the necessary decision to suspend all physical gatherings of upcoming church activities, including—but not limited to—Sunday Worship Service, Wednesday Noon Bible Study, Thursday Night Bible Study, Women’s Fellowship, and all Easter rehearsal activities until after March 31, 2020. We will reevaluate this date as the end of the month approaches.

The Centers for Disease Control (CDC) and Prevention and the Alabama Department of Public Health (ADPH) have issued valuable guidance that we should adhere to. Links to each of their Web sites are below. Please educate yourselves during this time. Remember to practice good hygiene by washing, cleaning, and sanitizing hands and surfaces. Refer to the CDC and the ADPH for future guidance, and use the sense that God gave us to make the best choices and decisions in our daily lives.

As an alternative to physically meeting, please take advantage of our social media platforms:

1. The Sanctuary Sunday sermon will be live streamed via Facebook.
2. Tithes and offering can be paid via PayPal. Tithes and offering (checks/money orders) can also be mailed to the church or placed in the mailbox at the church. Please contact the administrative assistant (contact information below) if you choose this method so arrangements can be made to pick up swiftly. For any cash donations, please contact Dr. Sareta Brown (334-324-8929) or Sis. Tawana Murdock (334-558-2623) to make arrangements for pickup. Do not mail or place cash in the church mailbox.
3. Wednesday Noon Bible Study will still gather at noon on Wednesdays for prayer via conference call. Dial 605-472-5304, Code 412872# (pound symbol). Text Rev. Sandra Walker (334-322-7483) your prayer requests—preferably by Tuesday evening—and she will compile the prayer list to distribute to you before noon on Wednesday.

4. Easter drama rehearsals are ongoing over the phone. Please continue to keep in touch with Sis. Renèe Butler (334-324-6677) for the latest information on those rehearsals and choir rehearsals.
5. Children's rehearsals for Easter and Women's Fellowship dates and times are to be determined. Other important announcements will be posted to our Web site as well as to our other outlets.

My heartfelt desire is for my members to remain safe and stay informed. For this reason, I started with asking you to pray and I am ending with the same. I especially want us to pray for our Nation and its leaders, and for God's healing power. Let me also encourage you to read and study Psalms 91. I've provided a link below (www.crosswalk.com) that will help you in your study. There is nothing new under the sun, and we are not a people without hope, for we believe in Jehovah Nissi and His Word! He's able to handle any situation!

For any questions, please contact my administrative assistant, Sis. Kayla Brown at sanctuarymbc@hotmail.com or (334) 328-9338.

Valuable links for additional information:

- <https://www.crosswalk.com/faith/spiritual-life/does-no-harm-shall-overcome-you-in-psalm-91-mean-that-you-wont-suffer.html>
- <https://www.cdc.gov/>
- <http://www.alabamapublichealth.gov/>

Blessings,



Rev. Ossie T. Brown, Jr., Senior Pastor