

From the New Normal *ad hoc* Committee:

Dear FBC Friends,

First of all, I pray that this finds you safe and well during these extraordinarily challenging times. We have faced many obstacles throughout our church's history, but I think we all agree that these past months have been some of the most challenging. And like you, I don't believe that God will put before us a challenge too great to overcome as a church if we remain in his will.

For many months now we have been unable to worship together in-person due to the unrelenting spread of the Coronavirus. There is no question that our community and nation will be dealing with the effects of this virus in our daily lives for the foreseeable future. It is more important than ever that we all work together to slow the spread and lessen the risk to each other by following public health guidance. By doing so we can begin to turn the tide on this disease and regain some sense of normalcy to our lives, including our lives together at FBC.

So friends, let's begin to turn the tide at FBC and regain that sense of normalcy. Enclosed with this letter you will find our committee's guidance for us to resume in-person worship for both the 9:00am Awakening and the 11:00am Worship services. The "Guidelines for Resuming Worship During the COVID-19 Pandemic" is the result of both our committee's research and with the collaboration of a sister church in the faith, St. Peter's UMC. We ask that you carefully read and be willing to strictly follow these guidelines as we resume our services in-person. These guidelines are best practices based on current CDC and NC Dept. of Health and Human Services guidance. If we agree as a church family to each do our part in following these guidelines, then we believe that we can begin to worship together again safely with very minimal risk of exposure.

And to that end, **FBC will resume in-person worship for both services on Sunday, November 1st**. Please note that if public health conditions change within Alamance County or North Carolina requiring a reversion to stricter occupancy guidelines, then this restart date will change accordingly. Also, please note that all who are in attendance must follow the guidelines that you now have received in order for us to continue to meet in-person for worship going forward.

This is a new normal of worshipping together for all of us. But it is progress...the baby steps that we must initially take as we work our way back to being in full fellowship with one another. That is our hope, our goal, and our prayer.

Blessings,

Derek Hinton, Chairperson,

New Normal *ad hoc* Committee