

A Message From Our Pastor
continued from other side
for when we return. So this coming Sunday, we'll have online options, just like we've had the last few weeks. The following Sunday, the 24th, we'll have online options as well.

And then we will reassess the situation. We will look at the COVID numbers in the parish. We're going to continue talking with our leadership. We have a COVID team that's helping us. We've been talking with our deacons and with our ministry staff. So we're going to reassess at that point where we are, and then make a decision on what's going to happen from there. And we will communicate that with you and let you know what we're going to do.

You've been very encouraging. You've been very faithful. Thank you for your prayers during this time. Thank you for your understanding during this difficult time. This is a moving target and from day to day, it changes. And so we're trying to do the very best we can to make decisions with wisdom, but also knowing that we've got to get busy with the Kingdom work.

We look forward to meeting together as soon as we possibly can, but until then, God bless you.

James Pritchard
Senior Pastor



May 10, 2020

Offering	\$95,816.48
Budget	\$91,915.35
Designated	\$1,366.13
ALL IN	\$2,535.00
YTD Budget Receipts	\$1,540,446.72
YTD Budget Required	\$1,559,304.35

Morning Worship

8:15 a.m.

Welcome
Scripture Reading

*Be Strong in the Lord
Higher Ground*

Offertory Prayer

*Grace Greater Than Our Sin
Jesus What a Friend For Sinners*

*Wonderful, Merciful Savior
Cleve Gaspard, Solo*

Message
Spiritual Kryptonite

Judges 16:19-30
Dr. James Pritchard

Invitation

10:45 a.m.

Welcome
Scripture Reading

*Your Love Never Fails
Break Every Chain*

Offertory Prayer

Mercy

Message
Spiritual Kryptonite

Judges 16:19-30
Dr. James Pritchard

Invitation

CCLI#615645

Do We Have Your Email Address?

Our primary communication method during the pandemic is email. If we don't have your email address, or if you have recently changed your email address, please let us know at info@fbclaf.org.



1100 Lee Avenue
Lafayette, LA 70501

337.233.1412

info@fbclaf.org

fbclaf.org



@fbclaf

Select: First Baptist
Password: lafayette

Online: fbclaf.org/give
Text: FBCLAF to 73256

fbclaf.org/pray

First Baptist Lafayette
May 17, 2020

A Message From Our Pastor

Hey, church family, I want to give you a coronavirus update today. As you know, we've been meeting online in worship and in Zoom Sunday school classes over the last few weeks, and the Lord has really blessed that. In Sunday school, we're having over 500 meet in Zoom meetings. Plus, some have been watching the Sunday school videos online. Our high has been 870 that have participated in Sunday school in a given week.

We're having close to 800 devices that are watching the worship services weekly. If an average of 2 people are watching each device, we estimate close to 1,500 or 1,600 people watching every week.

On top of that, when the pandemic began, we were nervous about what our finances might do with people not coming to church. But from the beginning of the year until now, we are at 98.7% of our budget requirements. That's miraculous. That's the work of God in our midst. The Lord has favored our church, he has blessed through you and through your faithfulness, and I want to thank you for that.

This last week, the governor stated that the stay at home order would expire on May 15. For churches, we have been given permission to gather, but with some limitations. We are limited to 25% of our capacity. Our worship center is rated for 1,800 people, which limits us to 450 in attendance at one time. And those 450 that would be in the room would have to social distance.

So we would be separating row from row, and separating family from family at least six feet in between family units. We would be spread out all over the worship center and that 450 would be able to worship. If we were to need overflow, we could get another 125 in the fellowship hall as an example.

While we can do that, the question here is not can we, the question is should we? In order to answer that question, we have to consider some other factors. For instance, many of our church members will not be able to gather with us initially. Vulnerable individuals (those with underlying conditions and over the age of 65) are still under a stay-at-home order from the governor. Also, because of the social distancing requirements, we will not be able to offer childcare. Also, on top of that, we will be instituting a number of new protocols. We would need to train our ushers and our quick response team and our first impressions team. And since we've not been in the office for the last multiple weeks, we require some time to ramp up, to prepare for that.

So with all of those things being said and the heart behind them, we are going to wait at least the next two weeks before we meet in person. This will help us be more prepared for

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