



JULY 27, 2020

TO: THE LBC MEMBERSHIP

REF: CORONA VIRUS RESPONSE/UPDATE

GREETINGS TO MY LBC FAMILY...

I THANK MY GOD IN ALL MY REMEMBRANCE OF YOU, **PHILIPPIANS 1:3, KJV**. ALTHOUGH THIS PANDEMIC CONTINUES TO ADVERSELY IMPACT OUR CITY, NATION, AND THE WORLD, IT'S IMPORTANT THAT WE CONTINUE TO DO OUR BEST LIVING THROUGH THIS UNPRECEDENTED CRISIS. DESPITE ALL THE NEGATIVE CONSEQUENCE OF THE CORONAVIRUS, WHICH HAVE KEPT US FROM ASSEMBLING AND WORSHIPPING AS A CORPORATE BODY, THE LORD HAS BLESSED US WITH OTHER WAYS OF FULFILLING MINISTRY NEEDS. FOR THIS REASON, I AM THANKFUL, AND I WANT YOU TO KNOW THAT I LOVE YOU GREATLY, MISS YOU DESPERATELY, AND MY WIFE AND I PRAY FOR YOU FERVENTLY.

THIS IS MY SECOND LETTER IN RESPONSE TO THE CORONA VIRUS. IT'S SIMPLY AN UPDATE PUT TOGETHER IN THIS FORMAT TO SHARE MY THOUGHTS, NOTES, AND WAY AHEAD. IT IS MY SINCERE HOPE THAT YOU KNOW OUR SERVANT LEADERS, IN PARTICULAR, THAT OUR DIACONATE IS HERE FOR YOU. IF AN EMERGENCY SHOULD ARISE, IF YOU HAVE A NEED, OR IF THERE IS ANY WAY WE AS A MINISTRY CAN SERVE YOU, CALL YOUR DEACON, OR CALL OR EMAIL THE CHURCH AND WE WILL GET BACK WITH YOU IMMEDIATELY. **AS A REMINDER—**

WE HAVE BIBLE STUDY WEDNESDAY OF EACH WEEK FROM 6-7:15PM. THE LINK IS SENT OUT EACH WEEK AS A REMINDER TO EVERYONE WHO IS SIGNED UP. THIS IS OUR BIBLE STUDY FELLOWSHIP TIME. IF YOU ARE NOT RECEIVING THIS INFORMATIONAL LINK FOR OUR ZOOM TIME BIBLE STUDY, YOU NEED TO GET WITH OUR CHURCH ADMINISTRATOR, SIS. EBONY HICKS. I AM CERTAIN SHE WILL BE ABLE TO ASSIST YOU WITH THIS, AND IT IS PROBABLY JUST A MATTER OF UPDATING YOUR CONTACT INFORMATION. IN ADDITION TO THIS, I WILL START PROVIDING RELEVANT UPDATES AND PRAYER/PRAISE REPORTS DURING BIBLE STUDY. THAT BEING SAID, THE CHURCH ADMINISTRATOR AND I ARE COLLABORATING ON SOMETHING THAT WILL HELP CONNECT US EVEN MORE DURING BIBLE STUDY. STAY TUNED FOR MORE ON THIS.

THE SAME GOES FOR OUR WORSHIP SERVICE, WHICH IS LIVESTREAMED EACH SUNDAY. WE ARE NO LONGER ON THE CHURCH FACEBOOK PAGE, WE ARE NOW ON YOUTUBE, AND WE WANT YOU TO JOIN US EACH SUNDAY FOR OUR LIVE STREAM ON YOUTUBE. THIS STREAM OF OUR WORSHIP SERVICE WILL BE POSTED ONLINE FOR YOU TO VIEW 24/7. HOWEVER, I STRONGLY ENCOURAGE YOU TO MAKE EVERY EFFORT TO JOIN US ON

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SUNDAY'S FOR OUR LIVE STREAM AT 10:55AM. WE START PROMPTLY AT 11AM. THIS IS A WAY FOR US TO STAY CONNECTED DURING THIS TIME WE ARE NOT ABLE TO WORSHIP TOGETHER AT THE PHYSICAL BUILDING.

THE WOMEN OF OUR DIACONATE MEET AT THE CHURCH TO PREPARE THE COMMUNION PACKETS THE LAST FRIDAY/SATURDAY OF EVERY MONTH. WE HAVE BEEN DOING THIS SINCE THE START OF JUNE; BE SURE TO GET WITH YOUR DEACON TO LET THEM KNOW OF YOUR DESIRE TO PARTICIPATE AND PARTAKE IN COMMUNION. THIS WILL ENSURE THAT YOUR PACKET IS PREPARED AND READY FOR PICKUP PRIOR TO FIRST SUNDAY. IN THE EVENT THAT YOU ARE NOT ABLE TO JOIN OUR LIVE STREAM ON FIRST SUNDAY'S, YOU MAY ADMINISTER THE ORDINANCE TO YOURSELF OR TO YOUR FAMILY FOLLOWING THE GUIDANCE WE'VE ALREADY PUT OUT.

I WANT TO PERSONALLY THANK THOSE OF YOU WHO HAVE GIVEN ONLINE OR THROUGH THE MAIL DROP OFF AT THE CHURCH IN SUPPORT OF THE ONGOING WORK OF MINISTRY. IF YOU TYPICALLY GIVE DURING OUR WORSHIP SERVICES AND HAVEN'T BEEN ABLE TO DO SO BECAUSE YOU AREN'T SURE HOW TO DO IT, PLEASE JOIN US IN GIVING THROUGH OUR VARIOUS ONLINE PLATFORMS, OR MAILING IT DIRECTLY TO THE CHURCH ADDRESS: **LIBERTY BAPTIST CHURCH, 1232 ANDERSON AVENUE, AUGUSTA, GEORGIA 30901.** FOR ASSISTANCE, GET WITH OUR CHURCH ADMINISTRATOR, SIS. EBONY HICKS @ 706-589-0683, OR YOU CAN ALSO GET WITH YOUR DEACON WHO IS MORE THAN HAPPY TO ASSIST. REMEMBER: IT WILL TAKE LONGER TO ACHIEVE OUR GOAL FOR OUR **"ACHIEVING GREATER THINGS"** CAMPAIGN WITHOUT YOUR ON-TIME CONTRIBUTION. I KNOW YOU WANT TO CONTINUE TO BE A PART OF THIS EFFORT IN THE LIFE OF THE CHURCH AND WE ARE HERE TO HELP WITH ANY PROBLEMS YOU MAY BE HAVING.

WE ARE STILL IN THE NEGOTIATING PROCESS REGARDING THE PURCHASE OF THE PROPERTY WE SPOKE TO YOU ABOUT IN OUR PREVIOUS LETTER. KEEP IN MIND THIS IS AN ON-GOING PROCESS, AND BECAUSE IT IS A PROCESS, WE ARE NOT EXCLUDING OTHER PROPERTY OR LAND OPTIONS. WHILE THIS ONE SEEMS TO MEET ALL OUR FUTURE NEEDS, WE HAVE ALSO IDENTIFIED OTHER PROPERTIES OF INTEREST FOR RESEARCH BY OUR REALTOR. THERE IS INTEREST IN OUR PRESENT BUILDING; HOWEVER, IT IS DOUBTFUL THAT WE WILL FOLLOW THROUGH WITH THIS EFFORT SINCE IT WILL REQUIRE THAT WE FIND A TEMPORARY LOCATION IN WHICH TO CONDUCT WORSHIP WHEN WE RETURN TO HAVING CHURCH AT A PHYSICAL LOCATION. IT WOULD TAKE SOME SPECIFIC AGREEMENTS BETWEEN THE TWO PARTIES FOR THIS TO BECOME A REALITY, GIVEN THE FACT THAT WE ARE ONLY IN THE PROCESS OF "ATTEMPTING" TO PURCHASE PROPERTY ON WHICH TO BUILD A FUTURE CHURCH. WE HAVE MADE THIS CLEAR TO BUYERS. SO, WHILE THERE IS INTEREST, THEIR PROCESS OF TRYING TO BUY THE CHURCH HAS NOT MOVED BEYOND SPEAKING TO THE BANK. THIS STATEMENT SHOULD HELP YOU UNDERSTAND HOW FRUSTRATING THE PROCESS REALLY IS.

BEGINNING THE FIRST SATURDAY IN AUGUST (AUGUST 1), I WILL LEAD A LIVESTREAM PASTOR'S LIVE PRAYER MEETING VIA ZOOM. THE LINK WILL GO OUT THE FRIDAY BEFORE SATURDAY'S PRAYER MEETING. THIS FIRST LINK WILL GO OUT JULY 31, 2020. I WILL BE PRAYING FOR OUR MEMBERS, SERVANT LEADERS, THE SICK, HEALTHCARE WORKERS, THE VULNERABLE, SUCH AS THOSE WHO HAVE AN UNDERLYING CONDITION, THE UNEMPLOYED, STUDENTS AND FAMILIES, CHURCHES, AND OUR GOVERNMENT AND CITY LEADERS. PLEASE JOIN US FOR 30 MINUTES OF CORPORATE AND INTERCESSORY PRAYER. THIS PRAYER MEETING WILL TAKE PLACE EVERY OTHER SATURDAY FROM 9AM

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UNTIL 9:30AM.

WE ARE CANCELING OUR DIACONATE CELEBRATION WHICH IS ON THE CALENDAR FOR AUGUST 8<sup>TH</sup>. CHURCH ADMINISTRATOR WILL BE CONTACTING THE PREACHER FROM SAVANNAH TO INFORM HIM OF THE CANCELLATION. HOWEVER, THE DIACONATE WILL STILL BE RECOGNIZED.

I AM SCHEDULED TO PREACH A 3-NIGHT REVIVAL 18-20 AUGUST WITH YOUNG MACEDONIA BAPTIST CHURCH, EDGEFIELD, SC. CHURCH ADMINISTRATOR WILL REACH OUT TO PASTOR TRANSOU TO FIND OUT IF THEY ARE STILL PLANNING TO GO THROUGH WITH THIS REVIVAL. WHEN WE KNOW SOMETHING, WE WILL PUT IT OUT FOR EVERYONE TO KNOW.

OUR FAMILY AND FRIEND DAY IS IN SEPTEMBER. NO DECISION TO CANCEL THIS EVENT WILL BE MADE UNTIL A WEEK OUT. I HAVE ALREADY SPOKEN WITH PASTOR PERRY SMITH REGARDING HOW I INTEND TO HANDLE THIS AND WHEN I WILL MAKE A FINAL DECISION TO CANCEL...SHOULD IT COME TO THIS IN SEPTEMBER.

FINALLY, I HAVE TAKEN GREAT COMFORT THIS MONTH IN **PSALM 27:5**, ***“FOR IN MY TIME OF TROUBLE HE SHALL HIDE ME IN HIS PAVILION: IN THE SECRET OF HIS TABERNACLE SHALL HE HIDE ME; HE SHALL SET ME UP UPON A ROCK.”*** MEDITATING ON THE WHOLE OF THIS PSALM GIVES ME FRESH ASSURANCE THAT GOD’S GOT ME. MAY THIS BLESSED ASSURANCE, COMFORT, STRENGTHEN, KEEP YOU, AND ENCOURAGE YOU IN THE WEEKS TO COME.

BECAUSE OF HIM,

D. ALVIN DARDEN, JR., PASTOR, MSM., MTH., MDIV.  
LIBERTY BAPTIST CHURCH, INC.

EBONY HICKS  
CHURCH ADMINISTRATOR

CC: FILE