





March 24, 2020

## A COVID-19 Follow up:

best of our ability.

Last Sunday we met morning and evening by way of live stream. With the exception of numerous people telling me of some technical difficulties, we made it through our first Sunday. I cannot adequately express my gratitude for your patience and understanding. I really miss being with my church family but I am grateful that we can at least communicate technologically.



Wavne Robertson **Pastor** 

Based on the medical recommendations of local, state, and federal authorities, we will follow their suggested guidelines and not meet corporately until such time as the public is given a green light to resume group gatherings. The Morningside family will carry on our worship and teaching ministry through live stream to join our hearts in worship, proclaim the gospel, and edify one another to the

Please let me remind you of the following:

Each Sunday, join us online for a Sunday School lesson taught by Brother John at 9:00 a.m. Following that, we will have a time of worship featuring special music and a Gospel message from your Pastor at 10:30 a.m. Join us again for evening worship at 6:00 p.m.

On Wednesdays you will receive a prayer list by email. You are encouraged to join us again online at 7:00 p.m. as our Pastor leads us to pray for special needs among the church family and then brings a message from God's Word.

You can find the live stream by visiting our web site at www.morningside.ws or through Facebook (MorningsideBaptistChurchValdosta). Additionally, you can access any live stream or view previously recorded preaching and teaching at www.vimeo.com/morningsidebaptist.

As information develops, the church office will email it to you as we receive it. In the meantime, please check your email, our web site, Facebook, and Twitter (MorningsideVald) for updates. For the latest information about the COVID-19 virus, consult the CDC web site (https://www.cdc.gov/).

During this time that we are not meeting together I want to remind our members to please continue to give your tithes and offerings through one of the following methods:

- (1) online giving (go to www.morningside.ws and click "Online Giving" in the upper right corner of the page)
- (2) US mail, addressed to Morningside Baptist Church, 2604 Bemiss Rd., Valdosta, GA 31602, to the attention of Lisa Tomberlin
- (3) place your gift in the drop box beside the church office door

Thank you for your understanding and prayers. As always, the staff and I are available to you. God bless you!

Brother Wayne



John Yates Minister of Education

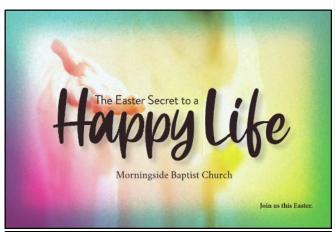
This is a truly unique time. We've come through our first weekend of doing church while abiding by "social distancing" guidelines. It was very different watching church from home, but I am so thankful for the amazing technology that is readily available to us. Thank you for watching Sunday School and worship from home Sunday. If you missed any of Sunday's services you can watch them any time at <a href="https://vimeo.com/morningsidebaptist">https://vimeo.com/morningsidebaptist</a>.

I especially want to thank Brother David Tew and his daughter Madison. Their technical know-how in the areas of video production, editing, and publishing made it possible for us to worship together as a church family from our separate homes. Thank you, Brother David and Madison! You did an outstanding job!

# The Big Invite

You may be wondering how social distancing impacts our effort to invite people to church on Easter. We don't know how long the current health guidelines will stay in place, but we certainly pray that we can actually worship together by Easter. Here are some things you need to know:

- 1. The Door Hanger Campaign scheduled for this Saturday has been canceled. If health restrictions are lifted we will reschedule it.
- 2. Continue to use the Invite Cards when you have face-to-face interactions. People may actually be more open to info about church during these unusual days.
- 3. We have <u>plenty</u> of Invite Cards. You can pick up all you need at the church office.
- 4. Direct people to our church web address (<a href="http://morningside.ws/">http://morningside.ws/</a>), live stream address, and social media. Online resources are very valuable during these days of separation.
- 5. Postcards and targeted social media advertising will arrive at almost 9,000 area homes starting next week. Those cards and social media ads will direct people to the true source of hope and happiness, Jesus Christ.





Above all, **PRAY**. Ask God to use this time of uncertainty to draw people to Himself. The stock market is not certain, our health is not certain, even our very lives are not certain; but Jesus Christ is "the same yesterday, and today, and forever" (Heb. 13:8).

Sunday School leaders, please keep in close contact with your students and prospects. They will appreciate your care and concern.

Brother John



## **HOW TO ATTEND CHURCH ONLINE**

### **GET OUT OF BED AND GET DRESSED**

It will put you in the right mindset for worship

#### GO THROUGH YOUR NORMAL SUNDAY ROUTINE

Minus the "hurry up, we're late" part

#### **GATHER TOGETHER AS A FAMILY**

No multitasking; worship is a family activity

## STREAM TO YOUR LARGEST SCREEN IF POSSIBLE

It will feel like you are really "there"

#### SING ALONG LOUD AND PROUD

It may feel weird but can honor the Lord

## PREACH WITH THE PREACHER

Say amen, clap, shout and take notes; have a time of prayer at the end; make your home a sanctuary



David Tew Minister of Music

I am so thankful for the hundreds of folks that joined us on Sunday for our live stream services. It looks like this will be the norm for the coming weeks. The above suggestions were found on Facebook and may be some good ideas for those who intend on watching the services online.

We are blessed to have been able to establish this technology over the past year. Many of you saw some technical issues on Sunday morning through FaceBook Live. There were countless numbers of churches that attempted to live stream, many more than normal. I would suggest that if you can join us on <a href="wimeo.com/morningsidebaptist">wimeo.com/morningsidebaptist</a> you may not have the same issues. Please remember there are several factors as to why and how an internet stream can be interrupted. We are doing our best to bring the best possible worship experience to our church family. If you continue to have issues or questions you need answered concerning MBC live stream, please call or text me and we will see how we can help.

Remember to check your email, Morningside Facebook, Twitter, and Vimeo for updates of Morningside Activities in the coming days.

Because He Lives, Brother David Covid-19. Such a small word that has made such a big impact. There are families that have lost loved ones to this virus and the health of everyone is at risk. So please understand that I am not making light of this situation, after all, we are in a true pandemic emergency. But I do find it almost comical that this little virus has in some ways delivered to us just what we have been asking for.



"Nipper"
John Nitschke
Youth Director

Case in Point: <u>Family Meal Time</u>. For years we have talked about the decline of the family supper time. How with all our "busyness" and activities we often found ourselves "on the go" so much that we can't sit down for a family meal. God has rearranged some things where at least once a day we should be able to sit down as a family, enjoy a meal and discuss life's happenings.

Case in Point: <u>Time.</u> We never seem to have enough time to do some much needed chores, or routine maintenance or even time to just "catch up" with loved ones. God has rearranged some things where at least we should all find some extra time in our day to take care of some of these things. Certainly the students in our homes now have more time, so perhaps there is now time for them to do some chores and learn basic maintenance tasks.

Case in Point: <u>Teacher Appreciation</u>. Being married to a teacher I might be a little biased but it seems that over the years most parents have developed a mindset that their child could not do any wrong. After a few days of "home schooling" I'm hearing comments such as "... I don't know how teachers do this all day." Or even, "...she won't sit still or stay on task. What do I do??" God has rearranged some things where we all should have a deeper appreciation for teachers and the job they are trying to do.

Case in Point: <u>Seize the Day</u>. My family has often made fun of me as I would say, "The whole world can turn upside down in a year!!" But with Covid-19 we all have learned the lesson about just how fast and completely things can change. Within one week we all were faced with changes and challenges never before contemplated. But now God has rearranged some things where at least our focus should be on the eternal significant matters. The Bible says it like this; \*\*Therefore do not worry about tomorrow, for tomorrow will worry about its own things. Sufficient for the day is its own trouble (Matthew 6:34, NKJV). Worry over the future things which may not even happen or taking care of non-essential matters might rob you of the opportunity to make the most of this day. So seize the day!!

Keep the Faith!! Brother Nipper

# **Summer 2020 Bible Camp Expenses**

Our cost this year will remain the same at \$250 per student (with a discount for siblings). The payment schedule is as follows:

Date Due:	Amount:	Note:
Mar. 29	\$45	Third of five installments
Apr. 26	\$45	Fourth of five installments
May 31	\$45	Fifth and final of five installments