



First Baptist Church
NORTH AUGUSTA
Disciples Making Disciples



December 4, 2020

Church Family,

I want you to hear this directly from me. **It has come to our attention that a concerning number of individuals in our church family and leadership have tested positive for COVID-19.** This week, Patrick Harmon and I held meetings with Rod Greenway (Deacon Chair), Cecelia Hewett (Personnel Chair), and Steve Johnston (Finance Chair) to discuss our response to this news. Dr. Robert West, who has served faithfully as the head of our COVID-19 task force, also shared his recommendations and concerns. Based on his input, the support of your elected representatives, and spending time in prayer, we have decided to implement a measured response to this unfortunate development. **Although our on-campus worship services will continue to meet at 9:30 am and 11:00 am, we are modifying our approach to our on-campus gatherings for the holiday season.**

Beginning this Sunday, December 6th...

1. **Connection Groups will pivot to online gatherings** for the holiday season.
2. **Mask wearing will be mandatory** while on campus for both worship services.
3. Our team will **ramp up all safety and sanitation protocols.**

Again, our on-campus **worship services will continue to meet at both 9:30 am and 11:00 am** throughout the holiday season. Our **KidZone will also be open during both services.** This Sunday, Pastor Johnny Hunt will preach at FBCNA. Please know that I love you, and, as your pastor, I make all my decisions with your safety and best interest in mind. Our decision-making will prioritize the minimization of harm to our people, which will cause us to be more cautious than some would like. As your pastor, I will never ask or expect you to take an unnecessary risk. Thank you for your patience, support, and encouragement to me. I am fully committed to seeing our church family through this. One day soon, we will look back together as a church family and share memories of COVID-19 as a pivotal moment in our church's history.

I am praying for you,

Pastor Stephen