



Fourth Street Missionary Baptist Church

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Fourth Street Family,

You've most likely heard the recent announcements by State of Georgia leaders issuing guidance for reopening some businesses and organizations to begin on Friday, April 24. At Fourth Street Missionary Baptist Church, our plan is to stay on our current course of practicing physical distancing as recommended by the CDC (Centers for Disease Control). This will include continuing virtual worship experiences and Bible Study livestreamed on social media and through ZOOM web and video conferencing until further notice.

Our re-entry plan to worshiping again together in the sanctuary will be based on what's best for the health and safety of our congregation. We will be taking our time to carefully review and develop plans for corporate worship that does not endanger our members.

We continue to encourage members – particularly those 65 and up or with underlying health conditions to stay at home and join us for worship online or tune in to our radio and television broadcasts. Please avoid large crowds. All [social distancing guidelines and personal hygiene practices](#) should continue to be practiced for your safety.

When we do begin re-entry into corporate worship, we'll do it having considered a variety of questions that may include developing some new best practices that we've learned during this pandemic season to benefit our church family long term. These questions to consider include:

1. What if our worship gathering is initially limited to no more than 100 people?
2. What adjustments will we make to the Lord's Supper, baptisms, and our choir ministry?
3. Are we canceling camps and VBS, or delaying them until later this summer?
4. What are we doing now to sanitize and sterilize our church building?
5. Are we going to continue offering children's period and hosting special events?
6. Will we continue offering virtual online worship?
7. What's our strategy to clean and sanitize the church in real time?
8. Do ushers do their jobs differently, or at all?
9. Is this the time to end our church's "meet and greet" time?
10. Because people may return very slowly to church, how will we count attendance and effectiveness?
11. What are we going to do about larger Sunday School groups?
12. How will we deal with the rise of COVID-19 related addictions?
13. Are we going to decrease the fellowship time between worship services?
14. Are we going to cancel mid-week Wednesday night services, meals, and Bible studies?
15. Will a new staff or volunteer position emerge from COVID-19?

Again, our top priority is the safety of all we serve. In planning our re-entry path, we'll carefully assess our environment and guidance from the Centers for Disease Control, as well as from state and local officials. As plans are developed, we'll keep you informed every step of the way.