

April 2020 Newsletter & COVID-19 Response

When we studied the first chapter of **Romans**, we noticed that Paul longed to be with the saints in Rome, but he was prevented from doing so. His response to those circumstances was to send a letter to them. He might not have realized what a blessing that letter would be to the larger body of Christ over the last two thousand years!

We are facing a similar dilemma. I long to have all of our First Baptist Church family together, in one place, for worship. Due to the pandemic that we are facing at this time this is not possible. At our Church Ministries Committee meeting of March 17th, 2020 we approved a plan to cancel all public services during the last part of March and all of April. We did not want to do this, but we believe that we need to follow the advice of our health and governmental authorities.

Our Church offices are closed right now, but please feel free to call or email Pastor Tim for prayer or a word of encouragement. During this time, I have shared several Bible messages online through Facebook, YouTube and on our Website. We plan to post each of the Sunday messages from the book of [Romans](#); several messages are already posted. We also plan to post Wednesday Night Bible Study lessons from Revelation on Tuesday afternoons. (I will be starting the [Revelation](#) lessons from the beginning so we can get the whole book online.) The C.M.C. is planning to meet again on April 21st at 7pm via Zoom.us to review the situation. We will update you in our May newsletter.

I am planning to go live on Facebook on Good Friday at 6pm and I would like to invite people to buy some grape juice and saltine crackers so we can have the Lord's Supper together online. We will have an Easter Sunrise service from my front yard at 7am, then we will record the regular Easter morning service at 9am which will be posted on our website by 11am for all of you to view during our normal church service time.

We had planned to host the Jews for Jesus ministry with their "Christ in Passover" presentation. Unfortunately, this has been cancelled. We have a link available for you to see this presentation online from Jews for Jesus on their website, just [CLICK HERE](#) to sign-up.

Tim Weimer [brought us the message](#) for the week of March 29th in view of a call. We had (63) of our (69) members vote on the following:

1. Marsha Silva as a salaried employee at \$500 a month:
*60-yes; (2) no; (1) abstain
2. Tim Weimer as Associate Pastor of Youth & Christian Education
*59-yes; (2) no; (2) abstain

Let's pray together, that God will keep us all healthy and that this Corona Virus will be over soon.

Pastor Tim Rempel