



First Baptist Institutional Church  
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**The Reverend Dr. Robyn Diane Moore, Pastor**

May 4, 2021

Dear Church family,

*What a Mighty God, we Serve!* Our lives and lifestyles continue to be shaped by the world we live in. We continue to navigate through this challenging season, that “we know too shall pass”. Likewise, we all should be thankful that grace and mercy has kept us. Although I truly don’t want this communication to be about me, I must say I am thankful to God that He leads me as I shepherd all of you. During the last 12 months, I have done my best to guide, nurture, pray, trust and obey God through discernment of God’s voice. I pray that you have personally experienced being physically supported (*food and exercise*) and mentally comforted (*bible studies, workshops and panel discussions*). I continue to seek the Lord that you are emotionally restored (*counseling, one-one conversations and prayer*) and spiritually reassured that God is always on the throne. WE CAN THANK GOD THAT WITH ALL THE CHALLENGES, THAT MINISTRY CONTINUES TO GO FORWARD. MY GOD, YOUR GOD IS WORTHY OF THIS PRAISE. IF IT HAD NOT BEEN FOR THE LORD, ...

So how do we move forward? Where do we go from here? How do we envision church in the future? What can I (you) do to help the church, support the community, and contribute even with uncertainty? How do I stay home and yet still serve? What is God’s expectation during times like this? How do we respect the wishes of some and respond to the concerns of others? If I go to the market, and I go to the office, and I go the gym, can I go to church? ***Blessed be the one who listens to the Lord!***

All of these questions are for an individual’s own discernment, level of comfort and reflective of your personal circumstances. Determining how and when to regather indoors is very challenging and emotionally draining. I am thankful to see vaccines are here and a large percentage of our congregation is vaccinated. Our church must continue doing our part to protect ourselves, those coming and going from the church, and whom we interact with daily. We are cautious yet also eager to begin meeting together and worship indoors.

**As we return once again to in-person worship on Sunday, May 9, 2021,** and after consideration and prayer following the last quarterly meeting, I want to advise you of a few updates.

- Access to the building will be available at 8:30 a.m. and only through the Gilchrist entrance.
- Special entrance to the main door (handicap) available as needed and upon request
- Hour of Empowerment will remain virtual.
- Mask wearing, temperature checked, survey completion, and social distance will be enforced.
- Surveys will be available at [www.fbicdetroit.org](http://www.fbicdetroit.org) (by Thursday, May 6<sup>th</sup>) and through email. You can complete in advance or upon entrance. Note: Surveys are “good” for 48 hours. Once this time has lapsed, a new survey is required for entrance to FBIC.

- Additional masks and plastic gloves available on site.
- Escorted seating only, dismissal will be directed by ushers and volunteers
- Maximum of 75 worshipers allowed in sanctuary; additional seating in Great Room
- Great Room will be set up with technology for overflow of worshipers.

If you have additional questions regarding this worship service, please notify the church office and you will be contacted accordingly.

Now, let me take a moment to update you on the “the happenings at FBIC”:

<b>May 8<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>Motor City (FBIC) Cleanup</b>	<b>9:00 am to 2:00 pm</b>
<b>May 8<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>Men’s Breakfast</b>	<b>8:00 am</b>
<b>May 9<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>Mother’s Day (In-Person Worship)</b>	<b>10:00 am</b>
<b>May 15<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>Baptismal Orientation</b>	<b>(Time TBD)</b>
<b>May 15<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>Women’s Gathering</b>	<b>10:00 am</b>
<b>May 16<sup>th</sup> -18<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>Spring Revival (virtual)</b>	<b>6:30 pm</b>
	<b>Guest Preacher (Rev. Orville Littlejohn, Messiah Baptist)</b>	
<b>May 22<sup>nd</sup></b>	<b>Wayne State Mobile Clinic</b>	<b>10:00 am to 4:00 pm</b>
<b>May 23<sup>rd</sup></b>	<b>Baptismal Service</b>	<b>immediately after service</b>
<b>May 30<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>Friends/Family (In-Person Worship)</b>	<b>10:00 am</b>
	<b>Guest Preacher/Rev. Richard McMillion</b>	

As you can see, FBIC is always looking to engage you with spiritual discipline and fellowship as your faith grows with Christ. I want to thank everyone who has contributed, no matter the amount to the ministry of the great church. We are an extremely relational, highly missional people that trusts God and each other. The way to our future together requires all of us---our prayers, our cooperation, and our patience. May our everyday lives continue to tell the story of the glory and goodness of God.

In Christ We Serve,



Pastor Robyn Diane Moore