

April 21, 2020

Dear Friend,

"I hope to see you soon, and we will talk face to face" 3 John 1:14. I think I know something of what the first century Christians must have felt when they were separated from their brothers and sisters. How we long to be back together! Until then, I wanted to send you another letter.

I wrote you almost a month ago about our present situation. We learn better day to day, how to handle this circumstance. But we also know this will not last forever. But we are learning and modifying each day how we "do church". Here are some things I thought you would want to know.

#### **GIVING AND STEWARDSHIP**

Your giving during this time has been wonderful. More of you are giving online than before. I am grateful for the ability to give safely online through our website: (<a href="https://www.whbcconway.org">www.whbcconway.org</a>). From the "giving online" tab, you can give once or set up for regular ongoing giving.

Many of you are mailing in your offering or dropping it off at our box outside the office. Our mailing address is 4215 Prince Street, Conway, AR 72034. We have the drop box available at the office from 8:00am til 4:00pm, Monday through Thursday.

Here are few notes on our stewardship:

In the first two weeks of April, our total giving was \$87,285.62

40% of our giving is online (this is higher than normal)

Our giving was above normal for the month of March

Our spending is reduced and should stay so throughout this crisis

#### THE LORD'S SUPPER

This Sunday, we will participate in the Lord's Supper at the close of the morning service. We have "communion sets" available at the office, if you would like to pick up enough for your family. It simply a cup of juice with a wafer enclosed in plastic. It is simple to use and needs no refrigeration. You may also want to use your own juice and a saltine cracker.

### SUNDAY TALKS on SUNDAY NIGHT

On May 3<sup>rd</sup>, we will begin to stream online a special series in place of our normal evening service. I am calling this "Sunday Talks". The format will be me as facilitator with two of our staff discussing topics of importance to the Church. On week one, Greg Childress, J.D. Cariker and I will discuss "Cultural Relevance and the Church". We will begin streaming live at 6:00pm. Other topics may include: Children and Conversion; Discipleship; Heaven; Revival; Worship; Prayer; Why Denominations are Important; Sharing the Gospel; End Time Prophecies, etc.

These will be biblical discussions with opportunities for you to ask questions. I look forward to hearing from you about these special nights together. Again, this will be online only until we can return in person.

Dr. Larry White

Senior Pastor

# **Greg Childress**

Associate Pastor of Music and Worship

# **Daniel Dykes**

Associate Pastor of Education and Administration

### JD Cariker

Associate Pastor of Youth and Families

### **Steve Lasiter**

Associate Pastor of Children and Outreach

## Joanna Lasiter

Director of Preschool Ministries

**Eric Randall** 

College Pastor

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# **DIGITAL CHURCH**

More and more people are "tuning in" to our services online. Eric Randall conducted a poll this week, on Facebook asking how we watch the service. 39% SmartTV; 29% on a cellphone or iPad; 23% on a laptop computer; 11% on Chromecast, Apple TV, Fire stick or Roku. As one who often watches from my cellphone, the quality from a TV is much better. If you need help setting that up, reach out to Eric at <a href="mailto:eric@whbcconway.org">eric@whbcconway.org</a>.

## **BREAKFAST DRIVE 3.0**

Through our first two breakfast food drives, you have served 231 children and adults. The boxes of food will feed these families several meals. Thank you for giving. We are working on our next Breakfast Drive. You can start dropping off this week. We are heading to a new neighborhood near our campus.

## MOTHER'S DAY

We are working on a special plan for Mother's Day. We want to bless mothers and families with a special experience. We will share more as we work through the details.

## A FINAL WORD

Are there ministry opportunities we are missing? Let us know how we can help. We have missed getting your prayer requests each week in our Connection boxes. Not many have responded to the online prayer and connection cards. You can find those on our website and fill them out at any time. We'd love to know how to pray for you and how God is answering prayers.

Let's not grow weary in doing good. Keep on praying, reading the Word and loving our families and neighbors.

Until then,

Larry D. White Senior Pastor