



THE MESSENGER

September 2020

TMBC Path to Re-Entry

Church Family & Friends,

As we know, the COVID-19 Pandemic is ever changing and evolving which has made it difficult to balance the desire for in-person worship and keeping our church family safe. While schools and colleges are reopening properly, some have had to close. While some churches are reopening, there are others who have had to close due to positive coronavirus cases. The COVID-19 Response Team will continue to monitor, plan and re-plan, as necessary. We thank you for your patience and your steadfast support of God's church as you have not allowed our ministry and mission falter.

We are excited to share with you that we have finalized a new plan for re-entering our church for worship in our Sanctuary. This plan was approved by our Church Ministry Council on August 24. This will be a tiered re-entry plan in order for the church to gain familiarity with new precautions and enter safely.

AUGUST 30 – On this date we will invite 3-4 Sunday School classes to attend an in-person worship service at 10:55 a.m. on campus in the Sanctuary. Classes will be chosen by size for spacing. This will serve as a “soft-opening” and allow our ministers and COVID-19 Response Team to practice social distancing and sanitation guidelines before potentially opening in-person worship to everyone. The service will be livestreamed to our Facebook page and will be recorded for viewing on our website following the live service. In this way, our TMBC family will be worshipping together, whether in person or virtually, in the same hour.

The same three to four (3-4) Sunday school classes invited to participate in worship will also be given the option of meeting in the church for that Sunday at 9:45am for their normal Sunday school gathering. *These classes will be contacted in advance and assigned a location within the church to meet in-person for purposes of social distancing and cleaning/ disinfecting.* Following the Sunday school hour, these Sunday Small Groups can join, socially distanced, in the Sanctuary for worship.

SEPTEMBER 6 – We will repeat the same process of August 30 and allow two to three (2-3) different classes to meet and take part in the service.

SEPTEMBER 13 – ***TMBC will resume worship only at 10:55am if the previous two Sunday in-person events show that the precautions we have implemented will be successful for a larger group.*** Sunday School Small Groups will be encouraged to meet as they have grown accustomed to, via online or outside at church, as more people will be gathered. We will continually monitor attendance, adjusting schedules accordingly, as we further plan for Sunday school to fully resume.

We have delayed our re-gathering numerous times over the past several months to minimize risk to our congregation and to be good neighbors in our community. We did not want to be part of the problem but part of the solution and continue to hold those truths. We believe we have arrived at a place where we are confident of our plans and can provide a relatively low-risk setting for those who would worship on campus. We desire that our worship service would be a minimal risk to the community as well. Thus, we are prayerfully ready to make this step and transition.

The most important part of our plan to re-gather is our own actions. We encourage everyone to follow good health and safety protocols not only when at church, but at all times. In doing so, we not only create a safer environment for worship but also for our neighbors, co-workers, and families. As we make our plans to meet, please review the information that we are providing for on-campus worship.

See you soon,
COVID-19 Response Team
Church Ministry Council

MUSIC AND WORSHIP ARTS NEWS

Music Experiences for Children

Singing and making music are foundational ways that we express our worship and to proclaim our faith. The church has always found that singing is a powerful way to build a “soundtrack” for life in Christ. Thus, our children need musical experiences that will help form them in their faith and point them toward a relationship with Christ and the church.

This fall, our music-making with children will be different. We don't yet know when or how often we will meet face-to-face, but we hope that our families will reserve Wednesday nights for music making. Sometimes it may be outside at the church (live streamed for those who cannot attend in person). Other times may be exclusively via an online platform, but no matter which way we gather, we want the children of TMBC to have these vital experiences.

Our Music Friends, Music Time, and Young Musicians leaders are meeting on August 30 to prepare, and we hope to launch our first Wednesday evening activities on September 9, so stay tuned!

Choirs and Instruments

We are making plans for our second **Chancel Choir virtual offering** in worship. It will be ready by mid-September and will be shared in worship as well as online.

We would also like to feature **instrumentalists during worship**. If you play an instrument and would like to share a musical offering in worship during the fall semester (unaccompanied, or accompanied by piano or organ), please get in touch with Andy Roby (robya@tmbc.org).

Plans are being formulated for a way that our **Chancel Handbells** can praise God through the sounds of the bells this fall. Andy will communicate with the handbell ringers soon.

And **youth**, we are trying to find the best approach and time to bring our youth singers back together this fall. Watch for more information very soon!

Gratitude

Thanks be to God for the ways our church has continued to engage in the life of worshipping together throughout the time of online worship. As we move back to in-person worship, we will continue to live stream our services on Facebook Live each Sunday to help connect with the many members of our church who will not be able to gather with us face-to-face right away. The video recordings will be posted to the church website a day or two after each service, and a DVD of any specific service will soon be available for purchase through the church office.

Andy Roby

Share Christ Team Names New Librarian

The Share Christ Team has recently named Kathryn Tesh as TMBC's Church Librarian. Kathryn's love of reading and joy of witnessing others' passion for reading make her a perfect fit for the position. Kathryn desires to continue the growth of excellence in the Boyd Memorial Library. Larry Dendy, chair of Share Christ, says, "A true library is a learning resources center. Kathryn Tesh is very passionate about learning, technology and children. With Kathryn as our librarian, our Boyd Library will be an inviting learning resources center for children and adults alike." Thank you for volunteering, Kathryn



MEMORIAL MATTERS!

Communion and Fellowship on August 24, 2020



In Our Prayers

A new prayer list begins the first of each month.

The world and its response to COVID-19.

Gerstle Dendy
(Larry Dendy's mother)
Tyler Lumley
Adell Prescott
Nat Brackenhoff
Barbara Hardy
Pat and Joan Whitehurst
Russ Gray
Karen Rehm
Susan Stephenson-Haas
Cameron Dew
Jim Darden

Dave Gordon
Mary Frances Jones
Larry Bristow
John Sugg
Charlee and Greyson Ivey
(Kevin and Tammy Ivey's grandbabies)

Homebound/Shut-Ins

Beverly Dickens
Doris Evans
Norman Little
Doris Pappendick (Jimmy Bryant's mother-in-law)
Pauline White

September Deacons of the Week



Lloyd Parker
August 30—Sept. 5
252-355-7535



Larry Dendy
September 6-12
252-746-4818



Sharon Lee
September 13-19
252-714-6537

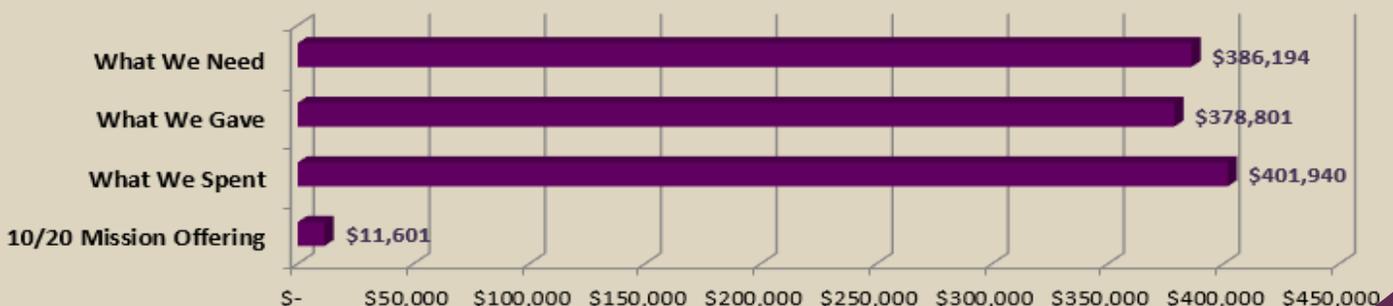


Stuart Hardy
September 20—26
252-229-1261



Beth Harman
September 27—October 5
252-531-5425

Where We Stand August 23, 2020





The
Memorial
Baptist
Church

1510 Greenville Blvd. SE
Greenville, NC 27858
252-756-5314
www.tmbc.org



Abbi Mullens
September 27

Information for fall missions and ministries for families, children and youth will be forthcoming.
Families: Please fill out the survey shared with you by Abbi before September 4.

Backpack 
BUDDIES

Because hunger doesn't end on Friday.

Bags for individual students have resumed.

Proteins (2 per child): Easy Mac-n-cheese, Chef Boyardee, Beanie Weanies, Tuna or Vienna Sausage

Fruits: Every child gets one individual fruit cup and one apple sauce weekly of any variety

Breakfast (2 per child): Any flavor Pop-tarts, individual cereal, granola or fruit cereal bars, individual oatmeal, individual grits.

Juices (2 per child): Juice boxes or pouches or bottled water

Snacks (2 per child): Individual pudding cups (any flavor), 1-oz bags of Cheez-Its crackers, 1-oz bags of Ritz-Bits Crackers, individual sleeves of Lance Crackers (any flavor), 1-oz bags of pretzels, individual boxes of raisins, and individual packs of fruit chews