FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH OF Lakewood

May 29, 2020

Hey FBCL Family & Friends!

We know there's a lot of chatter all over our Washington state newsfeeds about the updated guidelines for "houses of worship" when their counties are approved & move into Phase 2 of the state's re-opening plan. We also know it can sometimes get a little confusing to know what is happening next when listening to the press conferences or reading the official press releases from the state.

Please know that no matter what guidelines & updates come about, as soon as we know what the "next step" for FBC Lakewood is, we will let you know! **At this time (May 29, 2020), our church is still meeting ONLINE ONLY for worship & Bible study.** We are not meeting in the building yet. Again, we will let you know once we have the "Next Steps" plan ready to share!

Please understand that even when the "green light" is given, it might be a little bit before we would reopen the building to in-person Sunday services. Not because we don't miss you or want to gather together corporately, but because we are prayerfully seeking the Lord's wisdom & direction about HOW to do so in the very best way possible for you, our church family, & our surrounding community.

In addition, this "gentle shove" online for services, Sunday school classes, & Facebook groups has also opened new ministry doors that have been awesome! And as we prepare to come back to in-person services in the future, we also want to continue having something available online...which means making sure we are ready to be doing BOTH things rather than just one.

I say all this to simply ask for your continued prayer for our church leadership as they seek God's wisdom to work through A LOT of necessary questions & make needed decisions. I also humbly ask for your continued grace & patience. Truly there is NOTHING we would like more than to gather together for corporate worship, & we will...just maybe not as quickly as I would like it to be.

In the meantime, we will continue to have church services online, Sunday school videos available on the website/YouTube, as well as Zoom Bible study groups on Sundays. And I hope you will continue to participate in them!

Y'all, we love you. And it is such a honor that you allow us to be a part of your lives, to pray with you & for you, to encourage you & to call you family. Thank you.

And we will "see" you online this Sunday for worship & Bible study!

Sara Sacapanio, *on behalf of the FBCL Staff & Leadership Team*

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