

March 19, 2020

BCBC Churches

We are trusting that you are keeping yourselves safe but still carrying on being a church in your community. The COVID-19 pandemic has provided us with the opportunity to be the real church that Christ established. A church that worships God in Truth and in Spirit, a church that serves one another and a church that serves the hurting community around us.

You may ask how you can do this while still obeying the authorities to help slow down the spread of the virus through social distancing. Well, this is very possible. You should absolutely be part of the solution and not the problem. We need to be mindful of this virus and the consequences that arise when a community is slothful in controlling it. However, technology will help to keep us connected and still be the church. So, your church life should continue even though it will look different.

1. We are called to worship God individually and corporately. Set aside time for personal reflection and worship. You can read the Bible on your own and spend time listening to worship music. Have time to connect with God daily. You can also invite others for a time of worship and study of God's Word. Do this via various social media platforms like, Facebook, Instagram, WhatsApp, Zoom and many others. Find out what your church is doing or suggest these things to your church leadership.
2. We are called to serve one another in the Christian community. You can be a church that serves other Christians. Check on other people in your church to make sure they are doing well and are being connected. They may be going through a difficult time and will need your emotional, material and spiritual support. Church life groups should not close during this time. Life groups should live up to their name as people will need to stay connected. If this pandemic leads to complete shutdown, life groups should be one of the means of staying together. Virtual events including prayer meetings, bible studies, motivational and inspirational gatherings and sharing of hobbies can be organized using social media. There are people in your churches who use various social media platforms and are able to help you get set up.
3. We are called to serve the people around us who are not Christians. The Great Commission cannot be quarantined. Again, through social media, invite people to join you for bridge building social media events. They can participate with you but let them know you are a Christian group who are reaching out to the community. Start events with prayer and end with prayer. Be creative in your event planning for non-believers.

I want to conclude by reiterating that social distancing is physical distancing but does not keep us from the virtual community. All leadership meetings like elders' meeting, board meetings and other meetings should move to Zoom or another online platform. They are just as effective. Church ministries or departments should continue to run online, and the word of God preached or shared. Prayer must be had in the churches through these small groups. Be on the lookout as BCBC will offer a training workshop on how you can use social media for church ministry. You can even find some good tutorials on You Tube.

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