

Second Baptist Church

1265 Montello Street • Reno, NV 89512 • Phone 775-786-1017: www.secondbaptistreno.org

Dear SBC Church Family and Friends,

I pray this letter finds you well. The health and well-being of our church family and community is our first and foremost concern. I know that with all of the information and uncertainty of the COVID-19 coronavirus, many of you are wondering what are we going to do at this time. Again, your safety is the number one priority, and we do not compromise our stance on that principle.

My big question throughout this ordeal has been, "Why is this classified as a pandemic, and why the panic?" My answer came from an article I read in the Washington Post that I would like to share with you. In the article, **"How the Coronavirus Compares with the Flu"** by Katie Mettler, she states,

"The key difference between the novel coronavirus and influenza, said Melissa Nolan, an infectious disease epidemiologist at the University of South Carolina, is this: We know what to expect from the flu. Covid-19, the disease the coronavirus causes, has plunged us into the unknown. We don't know how severe an outbreak might be...We don't know if we might be forced into quarantine for two weeks. We don't even know if we will know if we get it."

It is through the unknown where we as a global community are now forced to navigate.

Governor Sisolak has stressed the importance of social distancing, and has mandated all non-essential businesses to suspend business for the time being. While he hasn't specifically mandated faith-based organizations to follow the same protocol, he has asked our organizations to voluntarily comply and find alternative means of staying connected without meeting in person.

With all of the latest information regarding COVID-19, we have had to make some tough and unprecedented decisions, but we believe that they are in your best interest.

Effective immediately - regular church services, Christian Living, and all weekly meetings are suspended until further notice. Beginning this Sunday, March 22, please join us on YouTube at 10am for our worship experience. **Only those who are designated to be part of the live-streamed 10:00 a.m. Worship Experience will be allowed on-site. Anyone outside of those designated to be on-site will be asked to leave.** Doing this helps to maintain social distancing, minimize the number of people that are gathering, and keeping everyone healthy and safe.

Listed below are the options we are providing to maintain fellowship during this time.

Sunday Morning Worship

- Subscribe to our YouTube Channel - **Second Baptist Church of Reno**
- We will stream our services at 10am to accommodate our 9am and 11am services.

Tuesday Night Bible Study

- This will be done through our Facebook platform - please "like" **Sbc Reno**
- We will go "Live" at 7pm starting Tuesday, March 24
- We chose this platform so you can still be interactive during the hour study

Ways to Give

During this time, many of you may be asking how can I continue to give my tithing and offering? We are providing multiple ways for you to continue to give.

- Text in all capitals, SBCRENOGIVE to 77977
- Mail your tithes and offering to 1265 Montello Street Reno, NV 89512
 - *Please note, we highly recommend if you choose this method to get a money order or cashiers check. We strongly discourage mailing cash.*
- Drop your tithes and/or offering to the church utilizing the mail slot provided on the door located in the parking lot side.

Staying Connected

We are committed to staying connected to you during this time, by designating ministry leaders to cover the congregation. They will be checking in with you from time to time, to ensure you are well and also well-informed. This not only allows us to stay connected with you, this allows you a point of contact with our leadership. We care about your well-being and want you to always know you are our first priority.

Further Information

- Should you have any questions, please reach out to your designated ministry leader.
- If you have questions beyond your designated ministry leader, you can call our office at 775-786-1017, please note our office hours are:
 - Monday - Thursday: 10am - 3pm
 - Friday: 10am - 12pm
- Or you can visit our website for up-to-date information at www.secondbaptistreno.org

At this time, we cannot say when we will resume in-person worship and meetings, but will do our due diligence to keep you informed of the process.

Remember:

- Wash your hands for at least 20 seconds
- Cough into your elbow
- If you use a hand sanitizer, use one with at least 60% alcohol
- Practice social distancing by staying at home unless you absolutely need to go out for necessities
- If you don't feel well, stay home, and make an appointment with your doctor

SBC family, I want to reassure you from scripture: "Our help comes from the Lord who made heaven and earth" (Psalm 121: 2). Also, I want to remind you that we will keep you informed of updates. Continue to pray for me and our leadership team as we navigate through this pandemic.

Blessings,



Pastor DeSean