

**Assoc. Ministers:**

Rev. Michael T. Carter  
Rev. Charles M. Walker -  
**Preaching Assistant**

**Deacons:**

Charles Combs, Chmn.  
William Holland  
Louis McDowell, Sr.  
Tijuan Neal  
Moe Ware

**Trustees:**

Aric Owens, Chmn.  
Eugene Carter, III  
Phyllis Gant  
Dwayne Holland  
Forty Jackson  
Henry Shelby  
Derek Talbert, Sr.  
Mary L. Talbert  
Lane Thomas  
Clementine Walters

**Church Clerk:**

Jessie Shelby

**Pastoral  
Administrative  
Assistant:**

Mary L. Talbert

**Church Secretary:**

Rhonda Turley

**Ministries Manager:**

Dana Carter

**Minister of Music:**

Alfred Jetoh

**Superintendent of  
Sunday School**

Wayne Richardson

**Asst. Superintendent  
of Sunday School**

Tijuan Neal, II



**First Baptist Church Maddoxtown**

**Rev. Dr. John Carroll Travis, Pastor**

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March 21, 2020

To the members of First Baptist Church Maddoxtown,

I want to take this opportunity to provide information on the suspension of our worship services, Bible study procedures, and all other church activities until we are given the official OK from our governor. Andy Beshear, whom I highly commend, congratulate, and appreciate for doing such a great job as governor by being proactive, compassionate, and supportive in giving directions during this coronavirus pandemic. I am well aware that this has caused much concern and worry on the part of many of you, however, I caution you never to forget that God is still in control!

Since we are unable to assemble for worship, we will be recording our Sunday morning messages and placing them on the church's Facebook page ([www.facebook.com/fbcmaddoxtown](http://www.facebook.com/fbcmaddoxtown)), and if possible, on our website ([www.fbcm-lex.org](http://www.fbcm-lex.org)), as well, so therefore, we ask that you be patient with us and prayerful for us, and visit both our website and Facebook page. We will use these sites for church information and updates as well. We will also include our bulletin journal page on both sites hopefully by tomorrow afternoon, if not sooner. One reminder, the church's website and Facebook page is not for the personal use of any individual, so please do not post anything from pictures to poems that would give a bad reflection of our church, and cause someone have the wrong impression concerning our Lord.

I have contacted Sis. Vickie Carter our Missionary Ministry president and asked that she spearhead checking on our senior members to see if they are in need of assistance in areas such as rides to doctor's appointments or the grocery stores etc. We want to be especially helpful to anyone who needs it. We can all thank God for giving us the opportunity to not only test our faith in Him but demonstrate our faith in Him by helping others in need. Jesus reminds all of us in teaching his disciples this lesson: **Matthew 25:40 (NET1) <sup>40</sup> ...'I tell you the truth, just as you did it for one of the least of these brothers or sisters of mine, you did it for me.'** It goes without saying but let me say it anyhow; *this is a great time for prayer and studying God's word!* This is a great time to demonstrate Who's we are!

I would have you further know that we are also working on getting established and setup with the ability to receive "online giving," which we hope to launch by next Sunday March 29, 2020, and I thank God for pushing us in that direction. In the meantime, you can get in touch with Sis. Mary Talbert and the financial team with what to do with your tithes and offerings. There will be persons at

church to receive your offerings if you would like to drop them off between 10a.m. and 11:30a.m. I am asking that you be faithful in giving although we are not able to meet. **Thank you so much and thank God for the opportunity to serve him during this time!**

### **A final word concerning the Coronavirus pandemic:**

So, how should believers in Christ Jesus respond to pandemic diseases?

- 1) **First, there is no need to panic.** Always remember that God is in control. Over 300 times (and the equivalent) the Bible assures us with the words ***"do not fear"***.
- 2) **Second, be wise.** Take reasonable steps (***wash your hands often, cover your mouths when you cough***) to avoid exposure to and the spread of the disease and to protect and provide for your family and others you may come into contact with. Take measures to protect all persons, stay home if you are not feeling well.
- 3) **Third, look for opportunities for ministry.** During times like we are in now, we often encounter people who are fearful for their lives, and they are more willing to have conversations about the LORD and eternity during those times. Do not use ***"the phraseology of theology,"*** but the assurance of the Scriptures when and while in dialogue with them.
- 4) **Finally, those persons who think they may be immune** because of age or whatever, be advised, everyone is capable of becoming infected by this virus. So, understand this, it is our responsibility to help protect each other.

**– Soli Deo Gloria!**



**Pastor John Carroll Travis**

***Romans 11:36 (NET1) <sup>36</sup> For from him and through him and to him are all things. To him be glory forever! Amen.***