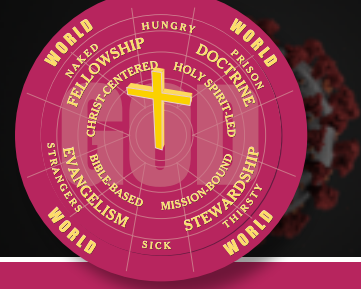


Walking by *Faith* 2 Timothy 1:7

Coronavirus Updates



ANTIOCH BAPTIST CHURCH NORTH • REV. K. L. ALEXANDER, PASTOR

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Pastor's Message

Even during a public health crisis, Antioch Baptist Church North remains Bible-based, Christ-centered, Holy Spirit-led and mission bound. In March, we made the difficult but necessary decision to adhere to the recommendations of the Centers for Disease Control (CDC) and suspended our in-person church operations, including worship services, Bible Study, weekly and off-campus activities. As we continue in fellowship virtually, we do so with acknowledgement of the significant risk associated with large-scale gatherings and the overwhelming impact on our communities. The data shows that people of color are experiencing the highest rates of infection, the most severity, and the most deaths. Among the 192,000 deaths in the U.S., Georgia ranks #5 of the states with the most cases and number of deaths.

Looking ahead and guided by the Holy Spirit, we convened our COVID-19 Task Force. Our health care professionals on the Task Force are closely monitoring the evolving details associated with COVID-19 as they partner with our staff and church leaders. In these dark times, God remains the light of the world, and we will continue to pray for His guidance as the Task Force provides us with recommendations. There will be five phases on our journey to resuming our in-person church operations; we are currently in Phase 1 of the process. The attached document outlines each phase and aligns with the current recommendations of the CDC and the City of Atlanta. As we prepare for and move through the phases, additional information will be provided on our church website.

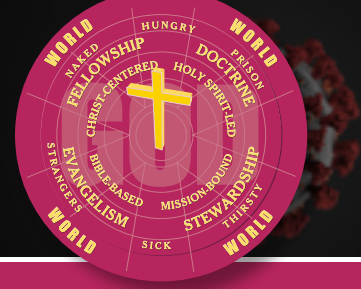
I remain deeply concerned for the safety and well-being of our members, families, and friends during the heightened awareness of the Coronavirus disease. Although we anxiously look forward to worship and fellowship in our sanctuary, I am reminded of the definition of sanctuary. A sanctuary, as defined in the Merriam-Webster Dictionary, is "a place of refuge and protection" or a safe space. We must wait until it is safe. While we wait, our church leadership, guided by recommendations of the Task Force will continue to update you. Please check email, the church website, and social media for additional communications from me and church leadership.

In closing, the scripture reminds us, "And let us not be weary in well doing: for in due season we shall reap, if we faint not" (Galatians 6:9). We are grateful to God for giving you a stewardship heart and supportive spirit towards our efforts to maintain our church. I extend heartfelt thanks to our church staff, auxiliary leaders and congregation for your continued virtual fellowship and cheerful giving. A special thanks to our ABCNN team for all that they do to join us in fellowship via Facebook live and the church website.

Remember, there is an "after this" and a "due season". I look forward to hearing your testimonies of the remarkable ways in which God has been at work during this unprecedented season—when we all get together—safely.

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Re-Entry Phases

There are five phases to our re-entry process, and as of November 1, 2020, based on the current available data, The City of Atlanta is in Phase 1. Antioch will follow the guidelines of and adhere to all phases and recommended actions established by the City, State and Centers for Disease Control (CDC).

PHASE 1

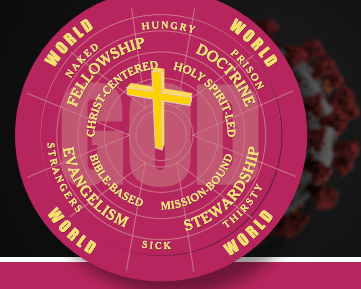
CHURCH SERVICES (ALL VIRTUAL)	All Worship Services (Morning Worship, Noon Day, Wednesday Night, Communion, Baptism and Right Hand of Fellowship, Revival and Concerts) will be held virtually Sunday School, Wednesday Night Bible Study, Classes, Prayer Breakfasts, etc. will be held virtually
OFFICE	Essential Staff ONLY; Closed for all in-person activity Daily sign-in, symptom & temperature checks REQUIRED prior to entering building Masks and social distancing required; contact by email, phone, mail & web conferencing
HOMEGOING SERVICES	Graveside services ONLY; No on-site services Maximum of 10 people ; Masks and social distancing REQUIRED Personal microphone REQUIRED for Pastor/Officiant
WEDDINGS	All in-person ceremonies suspended (no in-church or outdoor wedding ceremonies) Pre-marital counseling via phone and web conferencing
BABY DEDICATION	Virtual ONLY; No onsite (inside or outside) baby dedication services
CULINARY	No culinary services provided (exception for AUMI services)*** No dining or serving inside the building ***NOTE: AUMI Food prep/service requires daily sign-in, symptom & temperature checks PRIOR to entering building; Masks and social distancing are required at all times (see AUMI/ABCN section).
AUMI/ABCN	No-contact, outdoor food & clothing distribution Staff and volunteers MUST wear masks and practice social distancing at all times Daily sign-in, symptom & temperature checks REQUIRED prior to entering building All supplemental volunteers are encouraged to remain outside of the facility
FACILITIES	Essential construction, maintenance and repairs ONLY Daily sign-in, symptom & temperature checks REQUIRED prior to entering building
MINISTRIES/AUXILIARIES	All contact through email, phone, mail & web conferencing No in-person meetings or fellowship activities (on- or off-site)
METRICS	All of the following criteria MUST be met during Phase 1: 21 day decline in confirmed COVID 19 cases 21 day decline COVID related hospitalizations Percent Positive cases (8% or less)

PHASE 2

CHURCH SERVICES (ALL VIRTUAL)	All Worship Services including Morning Worship, Noon Day, Wednesday Night, Communion, Baptism and Right Hand of Fellowship, Revival and Concerts are virtual Sunday School and Wednesday Night Bible Study
OFFICE	Essential Staff ONLY; Closed for all in-person activity Daily sign-in, symptom & temperature check REQUIRED prior to entering building Masks and social distancing required; contact by email, phone, mail & web conferencing
HOMEGOING SERVICES	Chapel, Private OR Graveside Services Maximum 10 people ; Masks (3 years and older) and social distancing REQUIRED Personal microphone REQUIRED for Pastor/Officiant
WEDDINGS	Chapel or Outside (weather permitting) 10 persons or less Maximum 10 people ; Masks (3 years and older) and social distancing are REQUIRED Sign-in (guest list), symptom & temperature checks REQUIRED prior to entering building
BABY DEDICATION	Chapel or outside (weather permitting) dedication service Maximum 10 people ; Masks (3 years and older) and social distancing are REQUIRED Sign-in, symptom & temperature checks REQUIRED prior to entering building
CULINARY	On-site meal prep ONLY (Fellowship Hall Kitchen) Sign-in, symptom & temperature checks are REQUIRED prior to entering building Masks (3 years and older) and social distancing are REQUIRED No dining or serving inside the building; No contact, drive-thru pick-up of pre-packaged meals ONLY
AUMI/ABCN	No-contact, outdoor food & clothing distribution Staff and volunteers MUST wear masks and practice social distancing at all times Daily sign-in, symptom & temperature checks REQUIRED prior to entering building All supplemental volunteers are encouraged to remain outside of the facility
FACILITIES	Onsite construction, maintenance and repairs Daily sign-in, symptom & temperature checks are REQUIRED prior to entering building Single-door entry for all members, visitors and volunteers. Hourly cleaning of high public and high touch areas Masks and social distancing REQUIRED
MINISTRIES/AUXILIARIES	All contact through email, phone, mail & web conferencing No in-person meetings or fellowship activities (on- or off-site)
METRICS	All of the following criteria must be met: 21 day decline in Confirmed COVID 19 cases 21 day decline COVID related hospitalizations Percent Positive cases (8% or less)

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US Government Updates

<https://www.coronavirus.gov/>

CDC (COVID-19)

<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/index.html>

Considerations for Communities of Faith

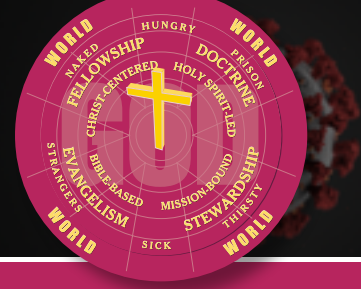
<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/community/faith-based.html>

State of Georgia's Executive Order

<https://gov.georgia.gov/executive-action/executive-orders/2020-executive-orders>

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Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ)

Why is Antioch opting not to have an in-person worship?

To slow the spread of COVID-19, Antioch will follow the guidelines of and adhere to all phases and recommended actions established by the City, State and Centers for Disease Control (CDC).

What is a novel coronavirus?

A novel coronavirus is a new coronavirus that has not been previously identified. The virus causing coronavirus disease 2019 (COVID-19), is not the same as the coronaviruses that commonly circulate among humans and cause mild illness, like the common cold.

Why is the disease called COVID-19?

On February 11, 2020, the World Health Organization announced an official name for the disease that is causing the 2019 novel coronavirus outbreak, first identified in Wuhan China. The new name of this disease is coronavirus disease 2019, abbreviated as COVID-19. In COVID-19, 'CO' stands for 'corona,' 'VI' for 'virus,' and 'D' for disease. Formerly, this disease was referred to as "2019 novel coronavirus" or "2019-nCoV". There are many types of human coronaviruses, including some that commonly cause mild upper-respiratory tract illnesses. COVID-19 is a new disease caused by a novel (or new) coronavirus that has not previously been seen in humans.

How is the virus spread?

- The virus that causes COVID-19 most commonly spreads between people who are in close contact with one another (within about 6 feet, or 2 arm lengths).
- It spreads through respiratory droplets or small particles, such as those in aerosols, produced when an infected person coughs, sneezes, sings, talks, or breathes.
 - These particles can be inhaled into the nose, mouth, airways, and lungs and cause infection. This is thought to be the main way the virus spreads.
 - Droplets can also land on surfaces and objects and be transferred by touch. A person may get COVID-19 by touching the surface or object that has the virus on it and then touching his or her own mouth, nose, or eyes. Spread from touching surfaces is not thought to be the main way the virus spreads.
- It is possible that COVID-19 may spread through the droplets and airborne particles that are formed when a person who has COVID-19 coughs, sneezes, sings, talks, or breathes. There is growing evidence that droplets and airborne particles can remain suspended in the air and be breathed in by others and travel distances beyond 6 feet (for example, during choir practice, in restaurants, or in fitness classes). In general, indoor environments without good ventilation increase this risk.

What can I do to protect myself?

Visit the How to Protect Yourself & Others page to learn about how to protect yourself from respiratory illnesses, like COVID-19.

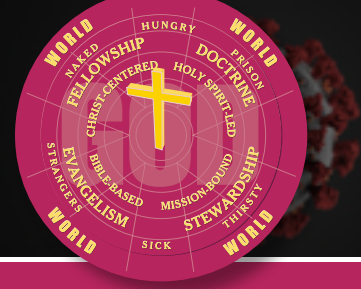
How should I respond spiritually to the coronavirus?

Please be encouraged by the truth God gives us in his Word—that he holds our world in his hands. Find peace in knowing that God is the creator and sustainer of our world. In seasons of uncertainty, remember that he is your refuge and strength, your ever-present help in times of need (Psalm 46).

Furthermore, remember to pray for those who are affected by this illness, whether as a patient or a caregiver. Pray strength and insight over the many doctors, healthcare workers, and researchers devoting themselves to better understanding and treating COVID-19.

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Protecting Yourself

Stop the Spread of Germs

<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/downloads/stop-the-spread-of-germs.pdf>

Symptoms of Coronavirus Disease

<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/downloads/COVID19-symptoms.pdf>

What to do if you are sick

<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/downloads/sick-with-2019-nCoV-fact-sheet.pdf>

How to Protect Yourself and Others

<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/prevent-getting-sick/prevention-H.pdf>

How to Safely Wear and Take Off a Mask

<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/downloads/cloth-face-covering.pdf>