



May 1, 2020

Brothers and sisters,

As you know, we have been following the guidance and recommendations provided for us by our state and local governmental representatives. We have reached a point where we can begin a phased relaunching of our church gatherings and activities. I am calling this a *phased* approach because I want to be sure we are acting according to wisdom in obedience to the commands of God while also being civically minded. There are no safe solutions. Life does not work that way. However, we cannot be paralyzed by our fears and anxieties. We are a community of faith and we will move in faith and wisdom knowing our future is secure in Jesus Christ. We need to be sure that whatever we do, we do for the glory of God! May Jesus Christ be praised, now and forever Amen!

Especially at this time, I urge you to pray. Pray like you have never prayed before. Consider a fast of some type. This is a crucial time in our lives. We have an opportunity before us to be a light for the gospel in a new way. The gospel never changes, but the methods we use to spread the gospel do change over time and we are experiencing major societal upheaval and changes. Remember our mission: *In love, we will go, share the gospel of Christ, make disciples, and build a community of faith that glorifies God!*

May the peace of Christ be with you all,

Benjamin Karner, DMin
Senior Pastor
First Baptist Church Laredo

Dr. Benjamin Karner, Senior Pastor
pastorben@fbclaredo.org
FBC Laredo • P.O. Box 452469 • Laredo, TX 78045
956-723-8374



General guidance and guidelines as we move forward:

1. If you are part of the at-risk population, you are strongly encouraged you to watch and participate in our online live stream worship and Bible Studies.
(www.youtube.com/firstbaptistchurchlaredo)
2. If you are not feeling well or someone in your household is not feeling well, please stay home. Watch and participate in our online live stream worship and Bible Studies.
3. When you come to a gathering, we recommend and encourage the use of a face mask which covers the nose and mouth. This is a suggestion, not a requirement. If you choose not use face coverings, please respect the decision of those who do not choose to utilize coverings.
4. When we open the building, make use of the sanitizer stations when you enter.
5. Please refrain from normal physical contacting greetings. I know this is hard, but we must be aware of how diseases and viruses spread.
6. Pay attention to signage giving instructions on seating, spacing, and closed areas.
7. The worship gatherings and Bible Studies will be shorter. The time of “meet & greet” will be suspended indefinitely. The “passing of the offering plates” will be removed in favor of offering boxes. The musical portions of our worship gathering will be shorter. Communion will be served through pre-packaged elements. The meditative time will be suspended.

Phase 1 – Beginning May 3rd

1. Sunday Worship will be held in the church parking lot via radio (92.5 FM) and live streamed online at 10:30 a.m.
2. Adult Bible Study and Youth Group will be held on Sunday at 6 p.m. via Zoom.
3. Wednesday Bible Study will be held via drive-in in the parking lot via radio (92.5 FM) and live streamed online at 7 p.m.
4. The status of other ministries and Bible Studies will remain unchanged.

Dr. Benjamin Karner, Senior Pastor
pastorben@fbclaredo.org
FBC Laredo • P.O. Box 452469 • Laredo, TX 78045
956-723-8374



General Considerations

- When entering the parking lot, please park leaving a space between your vehicle and the next vehicle.
- Please stay with your vehicle. If you have a truck or SUV, feel free to sit in the back of the vehicle.
- Handouts will be available as you drive onto the campus and an offering box will be provided as you exit the campus.
- The church building will not be open to the public at this time.

Phase 2 – planned beginning May 17th

1. Sunday worship will be held in the worship center and live streamed online at 11 a.m.
2. Adult Bible Study and Youth Group will be held on Sunday at 6pm via Zoom.
3. Wednesday Bible Study will be held in the worship center and live streamed online at 7p.m.
4. The status of other ministries and Bible Studies will remain unchanged.

General Considerations

- The progression to this phase of relaunching is dependent on community factors. If we are experiencing further outbreaks or virus related challenges, this phase will be pushed back.
- We will not yet be reopening child-care at this time.
- We will be reconfiguring the worship center to ensure proper spacing. We will be asking for two empty seats between parties in any row and will be spacing the rows greater distances apart.
- Please make use of the sanitizer stations when entering the building and masks are suggested, but not required.
- The used areas of the building will be disinfected between Sunday and Wednesday.

Dr. Benjamin Karner, Senior Pastor
pastorben@fbclaredo.org
FBC Laredo • P.O. Box 452469 • Laredo, TX 78045
956-723-8374



Phase 3 – planned June 7th

1. Sunday worship will be held in the worship center and live streamed online at 11 a.m.
2. Child-care ministries will resume, including Sunday School at 6 p.m. and Kid's Connect on Wednesdays at 7 p.m.
3. Choir will resume on campus at 6:30 p.m. on Wednesdays.
4. Adult Bible Study and Youth Group will be held on campus and live streamed on Sunday at 6 p.m. The Adult Bible Study will be held in the worship center and the Youth group will be held in the Fellowship Hall to maintain physical distancing requirements.
5. Wednesday Bible Study will be held in the worship center and live streamed online at 7 p.m.
6. Other Bible Studies and campus ministries may resume based on a pastoral review of how they operate.

General Considerations

- The progression to this phase of relaunching is dependent on community factors. If we are experiencing further outbreaks or virus related challenges, this phase will be pushed back.
- Physical distancing and other modification are likely to still be in effect.
- The used areas of the building will be disinfected between all gatherings.

Dr. Benjamin Karner, Senior Pastor
pastorben@fbclaredo.org
FBC Laredo • P.O. Box 452469 • Laredo, TX 78045
956-723-8374