

# First Baptist Church Edmonton March 31, 2020

Grace, greetings and prayers from Church Council,

As we continue to adapt to these days of challenge, First Baptist Church Edmonton (FBC) is taking the following steps to respond to the COVID-19 situation. We do these things in the hope of reducing the risk of disease and of limiting the suffering that occurs because of the spread of illness.

- Sunday services are planned for live broadcast using ZOOM videoconferencing, beginning at 11 a.m. on April 5, 12, 19, and 20. Instructions for tuning in using ZOOM will be provided in News and Notes and on the FBC Facebook page. Sermons will continue to be recorded and posted, along with the Order of Service, at the church's website [fbcedmonton.ca](http://fbcedmonton.ca).
- The next Church Council meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, April 21, and will convene using videoconferencing.
- There are tentative plans to reopen the Church Office on May 5. This would be on a limited basis, that is, with only one member of staff present, on Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday each week, from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.
- The FBC Annual General Meeting remains postponed until a new date can be scheduled, no earlier than June 2020.
- FBC continues to use the 2019 budget as a guide to expenditures and is identifying deferrals of some payments for the purpose of protecting the priorities of preserving our staff's livelihoods and maintaining the church building.

**Please remember to continue to support FBC's financial needs by arranging for your regular tithes and offerings. You can give by using any of these methods:**

- Give online using PayPal, 24/7, at [fbcedmonton.ca](http://fbcedmonton.ca)
- Complete and send in the Giving Form at [fbcedmonton.ca](http://fbcedmonton.ca) to arrange for regular online giving using a credit card or bank account
- Donate using a credit card over the phone by contacting Maddy at [office@fbcedmonton.ca](mailto:office@fbcedmonton.ca) to arrange
- Send a cheque by post to the Church Office
- Leave a cheque in the mail slot adjacent to the doors to the Church Office

*During this period of social retreat, pastoral staff and Church Council are reaching out to members of the FBC community to make contact and to identify needs. If you are in need of comfort or assistance, or know someone with a need, please contact the Church Office at (780) 422-2214.*

We pray for one another, we pray for our neighbours, and we look to our God who abides with us in the person and presence of Jesus.

*"But the Advocate, the Holy Spirit, whom the Father will send in my name, will teach you all things and will remind you of everything that I have said to you. Peace I leave with you; my peace I give you" (John 14: 26-27).*

~ Marco Adria, Church Moderator, on behalf of FBC Church Council