

**Great Bridge Free Will Baptist Church**  
**Regathering for On-Campus Worship**  
**June 14, 2020**

**As we make plans and preparations to relaunch our on-campus worship, we want you to know that in the same way our decision to suspend on-campus ministries was not taken lightly, our decision to resume on-campus worship has been met with the same diligence, thought and prayer. These decisions have included our Pastoral and Support staff, Deacons, and monitoring suggestions from both state, local, and national governments. We have also been in conversations with numerous churches across our city, state, and country, to learn from them and apply their experiences to our unique circumstances at Great Bridge Free Will Baptist Church.**

**SERVICE TIMES**

**That being said, we plan to relaunch and regather for our on-campus worship services on Sunday, June 14th with the following worship service times:**

**SUNDAYS @ 8:30 am and 10:30am**

**Each Monday, starting at 9:00 a.m., you will need to sign-up for which service you plan to attend by going to our Church Website or Facebook Page and click the link entitled SundayWorshipRSVP.**

**HOW THE LORD HAS BEEN WORKING DURING COVID-19**

**We also want to stress that we are not “reopening” because we have never been closed. Our church family has done a stellar job adapting and meeting the needs of our Church, Academy, and ECD Families, even in the midst of difficult times. During this pandemic we have:**

- Continued our Early Childhood Education Ministry for children of essential workers.**
- Provided a Drive-in K-5 Graduation for our students and their families.**
- Provided our High School Seniors with a On-campus High School Graduation Ceremony**
- Conducted an online Academy Award’s Ceremony**

- Collected Food and other non-perishable supplies for several families Performed 2 wedding ceremonies Conducted funeral services and ministered to two families
- Had 6-8 participates in a Men's Discipleship Group
- Had several Zoom Church Fellowship Meetings to help keep people connected.
- Continued worship services through livestream in which our views tripled since March
- Produced conversational, daily devotional, and Children's Church videos on social media, continuing our efforts to promote generational discipleship by using the D6 Home and Church resources
- Had consistent Zoom calls to invest in kids, students, and families
- Completed some much-needed maintenance needs for our facilities

We praise the Lord for giving **GREAT BRIDGE FREE WILL BAPTIST CHURCH** so many opportunities to share His love by meeting needs within our church and community during these difficult times.

## **OUR PLAN MOVING FORWARD**

### **HEALTH & SAFETY**

- If you have been diagnosed with an active case of COVID-19 or have recently been exposed to COVID-19, please stay home and worship with us online.
- If you are sick or symptomatic (cough, shortness of breath, fever, chills, muscle pain, sore throat), please stay home and worship with us online.
- If you have existing health issues that would put you at greater risk, please consider remaining at home and worshipping with us online.
- We know the government guidelines are encouraging older adults to remain home until a later phase of the process. We do not want our older adults to feel pressured to attend worship service on-site if they are uncomfortable. Please continue to worship online with us until you feel safe to join us in person. If you do choose to join us in person on Sundays, you will be welcome to do so. These are just suggestions made with your best interest in mind.

## **SOCIAL DISTANCING PRACTICES**

### **Personal Contact**

- We realize that everyone will be extremely excited to see each other, but please refrain from handshakes, hugs, and any other physical contact in order to reduce the spread of germs. Though you may be comfortable with these expressions, others may not, so we want to help everyone avoid awkward social situations in order to make everyone feel safe and comfortable at church.

- We will be limiting the number of people in close quarters, such as our restrooms. One of our Welcoming and Greeting team members will be available to help monitor the number of people in each restroom.

### **Seating**

- We will adjust seating in our Worship Center to best accommodate our church family and maintain proper social distancing.
- We will have seating for approximately 50% capacity in the Worship Center and approximately 25% capacity in the Foyer (For Families with small children).
- Our Greeters team will be available to assist in any way possible.

### **Cleaning & Sanitizing**

- We are making extra effort to ensure our facility is thoroughly cleaned when you arrive on campus.
- Our teams will clean throughout the worship services - cleaning bathrooms, door handles, common areas, etc. to ensure your health and safety.
- We will have multiple hand sanitizing stations for your convenience.
- We will lengthen time between our services so that we may properly clean before the next service.
- Only the Worship Center, Foyer, and Elementary Restrooms will be open. Classrooms, Kids and Student Ministry areas, other restrooms, etc. will be unavailable.

### **Church Coffee Station**

- At this time, we will not be offering any coffee or food services. This is to limit physical contact with others.

## **SUNDAY AND WEEKLY ON-CAMPUS PROGRAMMING**

### **GREAT BRIDGE FREE WILL BAPTIST CHURCH Kid's Ministry**

- During our first stage, babies and children will join their families in worship instead of going to Nursery or Children's Church since social distancing measures cannot be properly observed in that setting. This is for the protection and health of our little ones.
- As kids join their moms and dads in worship services, we will adjust seating to best accommodate family units.
- We will also provide items to help kids stay connected & engaged during our worship services. We will absolutely plan our worship services with kids and families in mind.
- The Purple Room (Pre-school Hallway) will serve as the Nursing Mother's Room

## **Great Bridge Free Will Baptist Church Sunday School**

- We will not be offering on-campus Sunday school classes on Sunday mornings; instead, online Sunday school lessons will continue in this first stage.
- We want to encourage everyone to worship with their families on Sundays.

## **Sunday and Wednesday Night Gatherings**

Until further notice, our Sunday evening Life Groups, Wednesday Prayer Service, Awana Groups, and Bible Study in the Chapel, will not meet on campus. We hope to begin other group meetings and Bible studies soon.

## **Worship Services**

- Again, we will begin our first stage on June 14 with two worship services on Sundays (in the Chapel and overflow in the Foyer):
  - 8:30 am & •10:30 am

## **Digital and On-Campus Giving**

- We encourage digital giving through our website, the GREAT BRIDGE FREE WILL BAPTIST CHURCH app or the “text to give” option. However, there will be an opportunity for you to mail in gifts or to give in-person during our worship services (offering box will be available at the exit as you leave).

## **PPE (Personal Protective Equipment)**

- Our Staff and all who are involved in preparing for the worship service will be wearing proper masks and gloves, when necessary to ensure the greatest opportunity for personal interaction. Also, anyone serving will have their temperature taken each Sunday.
- We ask you to bring and wear a mask for the safety and consideration of others.

## **IN CONCLUSION**

It is our desire to provide an opportunity for everyone to gather on campus while also considering the health concerns for our church and community. We want to be flexible during these days, knowing that our plans are subject to change based upon government directives and the continued need for caution to protect the health of our church family and community. In the event of a change, we will communicate those changes with you in a timely manner. Please be patient during this time, realizing that week-to-week adjustments will be made to best accommodate safe, meaningful on-campus worship.

**We are so proud of you, GREAT BRIDGE FREE WILL BAPTIST CHURCH family! Let us continue to walk through these days with eyes wide open to the evangelistic opportunities around us and to trust God as we move forward together.**