



## WEEKLY NEWSLETTER

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### "Biting the (Facebook) Bullet"

DR. DORTCH | SENIOR MINISTER | MARCH 26, 2020

In times like these we do well to open ourselves to new forms of learning. You've probably already stretched yourself in more ways than you ever thought you'd attempt. But the alternative, of course, is to stay mired in your rut, a fate that is far more worse now than ever, and let the rest of the world ... [READ MORE](#)

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### MBBC Response to COVID-19

If you were present on Sunday, March 15 or watched the livestream of our worship service, you probably heard our plans to suspend in-person worship services and other gatherings for the foreseeable future, on the basis of recommendations put forth by the Centers for Disease Control. We want to do the best we can to keep our members safe, especially those with compromised immune systems, while helping our community "flatten the curve" in regards to transmission of the COVID-19 virus.

What does this mean for us? We've laid out the details for our response plan on our website; here are some quick facts you need to know:

- We will have livestream-only worship services for the foreseeable future (at least the next eight weeks). Services will stream at 10:30 a.m. on Sunday mornings and can be viewed at [www.mbbc.org/watch](http://www.mbbc.org/watch). They will also be livestreamed on our [church Facebook page](#).
- In lieu of our Wednesday night gathering, Dr. Dortch will host a "MBBC Midweek Experience" on [Facebook Live](#) on Wednesdays beginning Wednesday, April 1 at 7 p.m.

- We will not have any gatherings at the church. The church office will be closed through March 31, but the office phone has been forwarded, should you need anything.
- We will not have Holy Week services, but will stream services for Maundy Thursday on Thursday, April 9 at 6:30 p.m. and for Good Friday on Friday, April 10 at 12 p.m., along with our Easter Sunday worship service which will be streamed on Sunday, April 12 at 10:30 a.m.

We will be in touch regularly to update you with our schedule, since this is a quickly-changing situation that requires flexibility on everyone's part. To read the entirety of the post about our response to COVID-19, visit [this link](#).

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## Support for Quarantined Church Members

If you are in a situation where you are quarantined due to COVID-19, we have a host of church members who have offered to run errands and pick up groceries for those confined to their home. Contact Amy Hirsch ([amy@mbbc.org](mailto:amy@mbbc.org), 205-704-3500) to let her know your needs and she will connect you with a church member who can help, or you can visit [this link](#) on the website to fill out an online form letting us know of your need.

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## Worship Preview for Sunday, March 29

SUNDAY, MARCH 29 | [WWW.MBBC.ORG/HOME-CHURCH](http://WWW.MBBC.ORG/HOME-CHURCH)

### Home Church

In keeping with CDC guidelines prohibiting gatherings of more than 10 people, we will not meet in person for Sunday Morning Bible Study or corporate worship until restrictions are lifted. During this time, we will continue to provide resources that will allow you to experience a Sunday Morning Bible Study lesson taught by one of our staff members and a combined corporate worship service in your home. You may access these resources at [www.mbbc.org/home-church](http://www.mbbc.org/home-church).

### Sunday Morning Bible Study

This week, Ben Winder will teach a lesson on Mark 14:43-15:15. You will be able to access this lesson at any time. We also have lessons posted from Sharon Howard for preschool and school age kids on our [Home Church for Kids page](#), which you can access at any time.

### Combined Worship Preview

We will livestream our morning worship service this Sunday, March 29 at 10:30 a.m. as we continue our series on the book of Jeremiah, "Preparing for God's Good Future." This week's sermon will focus on Jeremiah 33:14-16. Dr. Doug Dortch, our Senior Minister, will be preaching. His sermon is titled "Something to Anticipate" - the big idea for this sermon is that our redemption is closer now than ever, thanks to God's fulfillment of His redemptive promises in Jesus. We hope you'll tune in at 10:30 a.m. to

participate in worship by visiting [www.mbbc.org/watch](http://www.mbbc.org/watch) or join us on our [Facebook page](#) where we will use Facebook Live to stream the service. If you miss the service, you'll be able to watch it later in the archives or on our Facebook page. To download and print off a copy of this week's worship guide, which includes the lyrics to the songs we will be singing, visit [this link](#).

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## Service Opportunity

The United Way of Central Alabama is looking for volunteers to help deliver Meals on Wheels. Many of the regular drivers can't participate at this time because they are elderly people who are at greater risk of contracting COVID-19. To learn more about this and other volunteer opportunities through the United Way, visit [this link](#).

You may have also heard that there is a blood shortage in Birmingham right now, and health officials are asking everyone who can to donate. Donors must go online to schedule an appointment to help ensure that other donors and staff are protected. Safe distancing will be observed, and appointments will limit the number of people donating at any one time. Donating blood is safe, and donation staff are appropriately disinfecting all surfaces at the donor locations. Visit the [American Red Cross Website](#) or the [Lifesouth Website](#) to schedule an appointment if you would like to donate blood.

If you know of other opportunities for service during this time, please contact Wayne Splawn ([wayne@mbbc.org](mailto:wayne@mbbc.org), 205-834-3565).

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## Project 119 Bible Reading Plan

We are continuing our Project 119 Bible reading plan, which will go through May 2. If you're looking for a Bible reading plan, we hope you'll join us as a church family as we finish up the gospel of John and read 1 Peter and 1 Corinthians, along with selected Psalms. There are five reading days during the week, giving you the opportunity to catch up and reflect during the weekend. You can view a PDF of the full plan online by visiting [this link](#).

### **Week 8 | March 22 - 28**

- 1 Peter 1
- 1 Peter 2
- 1 Peter 3
- 1 Peter 4
- 1 Peter 5

### **Week 9 | March 29 - April 4**

- John 20, Psalm 78:1-13
- John 21, Psalm 78:19-40
- 1 Cor. 1:1-25, 78:41-73

1 Cor. 1:26 - 2 end, Psalm 80

1 Cor. 3, Psalm 81

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## Easter Lilies

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 1 | \$20 EACH

To give an Easter Lily in someone's honor or memory, contact Barbara Morgan (803-3443, [barbara@mbbc.org](mailto:barbara@mbbc.org)).

Deadline is Wednesday, April 1. The lilies will be used to decorate our Sanctuary for our Easter worship service on Sunday, April 12 at 10:30 a.m. and will be displayed on the livestream service. Lilies may be picked up from the church office on Monday, April 13.

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## Holy Week Reading Plan: Meditations on the Suffering Servant

We've put together a special reading plan for Holy Week on Isaiah 52:13-53:12, Meditations on the Suffering Servant. Each weekday during Holy Week has an assigned passage from this section of Scripture, along with a devotional written by a staff member reflecting on that passage. These devotionals will be posted on our [blog](#), but if you would like to access a PDF to print, visit [this link](#).

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## Prayer Requests

If you have a prayer request you'd like to share with our ministerial staff during this time, you can do so by emailing Barbara Morgan ([barbara@mbbc.org](mailto:barbara@mbbc.org)) or by filling out the prayer request form [online](#). We consider it a privilege to pray with and for you in these days.

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## Minister On Call

MARCH 27-29, 2020

Mary Splawn ([mary@mbbc.org](mailto:mary@mbbc.org), 205-834-3205) is the Minister on Call for March 27-29.

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## Generosity Scorecard

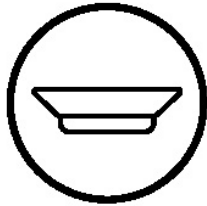
As of Sunday, March 22, 2020

2020 Ministries Budget: \$3,469,150.00

Weekly Receipts	\$26,977.60
Average Weekly Budget	<u>\$66,714.42</u>
Weekly Net	-\$39,736.82
YTD Receipts (includes prepays)	\$702,392.04
YTD Budget	<u>\$800,573.04</u>
YTD Net	-\$98,181.00

Remaining receipts required to achieve annual budget: \$2,766,757.96

### Ways to Give



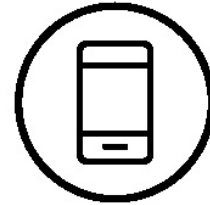
#### **PLATES**

Place your tithes and offerings in the offering plates during a worship service.



#### **ONLINE**

To give online, visit [mbbc.org/give](http://mbbc.org/give).



#### **TEXT**

To give by text, text STOREHOUSE to 73256.



**MOUNTAIN BROOK**  
BAPTIST CHURCH