



Rev. Dr. Selwyn Q. Bachus
Senior Pastor

Feb. 5, 2021

2021, The Year of Revival

“If my people who are called by my name humble themselves, and pray and seek my face and turn from their wicked ways, then I will hear from heaven and will forgive their sin and heal their land.”

– 2 Chronicles 7:14

Greetings in the name of He who orders our steps and directs our paths:

We are grateful for the diligence of our New Normal Ministry as the group continues to monitor conditions in our community and assess when it will be possible to return to in-person worship in a safe and secure manner. The ministry comprises members of our church, church leadership, our administrative team and local public health officials to ensure we have thoughtfully and deliberately planned a safe return to in-person worship.

Within the past month, our ministry leaders and essential role leaders received virtual training to ensure they are well-prepared to safely and responsibly lead their areas when we return to in-person worship. Because community conditions are dynamic, training our ministry and essential role leaders on expectations once we re-open will be key to our success in acclimating our church family to the “New Normal” culture we must all learn when we do return.

As the new White House Administration takes the lead on vaccinations and sets a goal to vaccinate a majority of the population in the months ahead. We’re prayerful we will reach a state of something close to normal by late spring/early summer. The CDC and our local public health officials consistently emphasize continued vigilance with regard to hand-washing, sanitizing surfaces, regularly disinfecting, wearing masks and maintaining social distancing.

We ask that God grant us His wisdom in our decision-making and we will continue to share updates.

Sharing our lessons learned with others in ministry across the country

As we begin the second month of our “Year of Revival,” we thank you for your prayers and support as we shared best practices gleaned from our real-world experience abruptly pivoting from our weekly in-person worship to setting up a virtual worship routine, practically overnight.

Members of our Church Leadership team, including myself, Dr. Donnell Moore (Executive Pastor), Minister Ananias Montague (Minister of Music and Fine Arts) and Brother Ron Coleman (Multimedia Ministry) led virtual sessions about our experience and the best practice recommendations we’ve learned from this COVID-19 experience during a weeklong intensive seminar hosted by Payne Theological Seminary out of Wilberforce, Ohio.

When God takes us to and through trials, the blessing is often in the lesson and we are honored He called us to share our key takeaways with others church leaders.

Water damage repairs on-track inside the church

We are pleased to report that repairs are on-track inside the church following the sprinkler line burst that caused water damage in the main entrance breezeway, foyer, ushers room, security booth, resource center, book store, part of the finance room and inside the sanctuary on Christmas Day. Work done so far includes the following:

- All the water was extracted and the floors dried.
- Drywall work has been completed.
- Painters are scheduled to begin work during the week of Jan. 25
- Light wall panels have been installed and an electrician will install the lights within the next few weeks.
- History wall restoration is scheduled to begin during the first week of February.
- All carpets will be professionally cleaned once all work has been completed.

In the interim, we’re holding virtual worship services across the street from the church at our Community Outreach Center/Food Pantry. You may recall that we purchased the building several years back to store food for our pantry and for drill team practice space. It has proved a huge blessing for us during our temporary time of displacement.

The contractor’s estimated completion of work is set for mid-February. We look forward to returning to worship inside the sanctuary at that time.

Important Events/Dates to Remember – Please Mark Your Calendars!

Black History Month Celebration

Join us during virtual worship services in the month of February as we celebrate the history and contributions African Americans have made throughout the history of our country, locally and nationally. As part of each church service, we will feature a brief video vignette to highlight, celebrate and educate our Salem Family.

Life Development Classes – Register for classes at salembc.org

We want to remind the congregation that Life Development classes continue to be held virtually. You can register for classes through the church website at salembc.org. On the site, select the “Resource” tab, select “Life Development Virtual Classroom Participation” and complete the registration form. Courses available include: Contemporary Bible Study, Adult Bible Study and Tuesday Night Bible Study. Questions can be directed to Sister Marsha Hall at: marsha47hall@gmail.com.

Annual Meeting

During a normal calendar year, we typically convene for our annual meeting in December. Last year was anything but normal, and COVID-19 case numbers caused us to postpone the meeting. Church Leadership will identify a new date for the annual meeting and disseminate advance notification with details once a new date is set.

Ways to Worship with Us

Please continue to join us in online worship at 9:55 a.m./10 a.m. every Sunday via salembc.org, on Facebook at [Facebook.com/salembcomaha](https://www.facebook.com/salembcomaha), at www.boxcast.com and on YouTube at <https://rb.gy/nizsy9>.

On **Sunday afternoons**, join us for our “**Word for Your Walk**” broadcast, **which airs on the CW at 1:30 p.m.**

We appreciate your continued stewardship and support of the mission at the Salem Baptist Church. Tithes and offering donations can be made using the following payment applications:

PayPal - visit our website or send to salemadmin@salembc.org

Venmo - Salem Baptist Church Omaha

Cashapp - \$salembchurchomaha

Givelify - Salem Baptist Church

Questions?: (402) 455-1000

You may also mail a check to:

Salem Baptist Church
3131 Lake Street
Omaha, Nebraska 68111

Peace and blessings,



Pastor Selwyn Q. Bachus