

Rev. Dr. Selwyn Q. Bachus Senior Pastor

May 5, 2021

2021, The Year of Revival

"Then we will not turn away from you; revive us, and we will call on your name. Restore us, O Lord God Almighty; make your face shine upon us, that we may be saved."

— Psalm 80:18.19

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

We are in the preliminary stages of identifying a date to return to in-person worship sometime this fall or early spring of 2022. Please keep in mind, we will continue to follow the recommendations of local and national public health officials as we make plans for re-opening.

Inside the church, we have setup hand sanitation stations and floor decals, which will serve as social distancing reminders. We are marking the pews to receive a limited number of worshippers at two separate, in-person services. We will share more details on how that process will operate in the weeks to come.

It is important to note that as we incrementally return to in-person worship, we will continue offering our synchronous, live virtual worship experience every Sunday. Our priority is to mindfully prepare the church, our processes, and protocols to protect your health and ensure you can worship safely. Your continued support and patience as we make the necessary changes to adequately prepare for re-opening is deeply appreciated.

We continue to monitor local public health conditions. As of the first week of May, statistics indicate we're at an **18.9% positivity rate** here in Douglas County. One of our biggest concerns is the low rate at which the African American community is getting vaccinated. As I write this letter, **only 27% of the African American population in our county** has been vaccinated. As a whole, **46% of the Douglas County** community has been vaccinated. Please—if you haven't already—*get vaccinated*. Wear a facial covering when in public and social distance.

Vaccination locations:

To find out when and where you can receive vaccination and schedule an appointment, visit: https://www.douglascountyhealth.com/109-covid-19/808-covid-19-community-vaccination-clinics.

<u>Important Dates – May 2021</u>

Mother's Day

This Mother's Day, we'd like to take a special moment to honor the women of our congregation. Whether you are a mother, stepmother, grandmother, aunt or an adopted mother, your guidance and love are unwavering. Thank you for all you do to show us your love and support.

Jeans and Jerseys Sundays

Let's have some fun this month! It's time for jeans and jerseys Sundays. As you worship virtually, we ask that you put photos of yourself (and your family) wearing your favorite jeans and jerseys (Christian casual, please). Post your pictures on Facebook, Instagram and Twitter for all to see. Use the hashtag #SalemJeans&Jerseys21. Be creative. Be colorful and inventive. We look forward to seeing your photos.

Water damage repairs nearly complete

Recently, the metal ceiling tiles, stone tile floor in the kitchen and stone tile floors in all four restrooms were professionally cleaned. We are thankful that repairs are nearly complete, and the church is nearly back to normal.

Salem Baptist Church Education Council

Friendly reminder: The Education Council will hold its annual Graduate Recognition Celebration virtually Sunday, June 6. Mark your calendar. This event is planned for members of Salem who will graduate from high school or a post-secondary program this spring. This includes college graduates. Congratulations to all!

Ways to Worship with Us

Please continue to join us in online worship Sundays at 9:55 a.m./10 a.m. via <u>salembc.org</u>, Facebook at <u>Facebook.com/salembcomaha</u>, <u>www.boxcast.com</u> and on YouTube at https://rb.gy/njzsy9.

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

Podcast lovers: We upload sermons from Sunday worship each week as a podcast on Apple podcasts. Listen at your convenience: https://podcasts.apple.com/us/podcast/salem-baptist-church-omaha/id1493073489

Also, you can subscribe to receive a notification when new sermons are uploaded.

Tithes and Offerings

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 offering/tithes to salemadmin@salembc.org

Venmo - Salem Baptist Church Omaha

Cashapp – \$salemchurchomaha

Givelify - Salem Baptist Church

Text "Give" to: (402) 543-3316

Questions? Call the church office at: (402) 455-1000

You may also mail a check to:

Salem Baptist Church 3131 Lake Street Omaha, Nebraska 68111

Peace and blessings,

Selwyn Q. Backers

Pastor Selwyn Q. Bachus