

 ***Rev. Dr. Selwyn Q. Bachus***

 **Senior Pastor**

Sept. 13, 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,

Let the countdown begin! Less than one week from today, we will re-open the doors of the church for in-person worship on **Sunday, Sept. 19**. If attendance numbers at Worship in White were any indication, we are blessed to know that many of you will join us in-person **Sunday, Sept. 19.** During Phase 1 of our return to in-person worship, we will hold two services – **one at 10 a.m. and one at noon each Sunday**. For those of you who prefer to join us virtually, we will continue to **livestream both services every Sunday.**

We’ve spent the past several Sunday mornings preparing for our return to in-person worship. To ensure we are adequately prepared to re-open the doors of the church, we have conducted a series of dry run sessions to test our New Normal processes and procedures. Following each session, we’ve captured feedback, suggestions and lessons learned from our ministry leaders and from practice worshippers.

One recurring area of feedback we have received is ***the importance of keeping the process simple.* We are listening** to that feedback. That said, we have decided we WILL NOT use the EventBrite registration process upon our return. **Instead, we ask that each in-person worshipper do one of the following when you come to church on Sunday, Sept. 19.**

* Stop by one of the registration tables to give your name before going into the sanctuary; OR
* Bring your name on an index card and drop it into a basket near one of the greeters.

**Your registration information will allow us to provide the health department with critical contact tracing information in the event we are notified about a positive COVID-19 case.**

**#YourSafetyMatters** to us. That’s why we’ve trained each of our ministry leaders on new normal processes and procedures, why we’ve held dry run sessions and why we are implementing a phased approach to our in-person return. We will continue to monitor vaccination rates and local COVID-19 case numbers in the weeks to come.

**Important Updates – September 2021**

**Restroom Renovations**Renovations to the men’s and women’s restrooms near the children’s nursery and the Maurice Watson Conference room have started. Construction is expected to span several months. The schedule has been set to ensure one set of restrooms remains operational while the other is undergoing upgrades.

**SBC Vaccination Clinic - Wednesday, Sept. 22**

Survey results from this summer indicated more than 93% of survey respondents said they have been vaccinated. At the same time, vaccination rates in the African American community remain low, with only 3 out of 10 having been vaccinated. Planning is currently underway for a vaccination clinic **Wednesday, Sept. 22** from 4 p.m. to 7 p.m. A second clinic will take place **Wednesday, Oct. 13**from 4 p.m. to 7 p.m.Registration is encouraged, but not required. We will share the flier with additional details later this week. Local and national public health officials have shared that the mutations are more contagious and impacting the health of the younger generation more prevalently than the earlier virus. If you have not already been vaccinated, we strongly encourage you to get your vaccine.

If you’d like to get the vaccine before the clinic takes place, you can find another clinic location and schedule an appointment here: <https://www.douglascountyhealth.com/109-covid-19/808-covid-19-community-vaccination-clinics>.

**Communion Elements Distributed Saturday, Oct. 2**On Saturday, Oct. 2, our deacons will distribute communion elements in the church parking lot. We will continue to distribute communion elements on the first Saturday of every month until further notice. This allows those who choose to worship virtually to have the opportunity to commune with us.

**Ways to Worship with Us**
Please continue to join us in online worship Sundays at 9:55 a.m./10 a.m. via [**salembc.org**](https://salembc.org/), Facebook at [**Facebook.com/salembcomaha**](https://www.facebook.com/salembcomaha), [**www.boxcast.com**](http://www.boxcast.com) and on YouTube at [**https://rb.gy/njzsy9**](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.
\*\*\*TV SIGNAL CHANGE:** For those who do not subscribe to paid cable services, please note there has been a signal change for the CW. The basic television Channel 15.1 will be moved to Channel 42.3. Tune in there to watch the broadcast.

**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

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Peace and blessings,

Pastor Selwyn Q. Bachus