



FellowshipChicago

Fellowship Missionary Baptist Church

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To My Fellowship Chicago Church Family:

I pray this reaches you all in great spirits. As I shared with each of you last week, we at Fellowship have been closely monitoring the evolution of the coronavirus (COVID-19), and we are taking every measurable step to ensure the health and safety of our members. I promised this church that I would lead it through this global pandemic under the 3 I's – Information, Instruction and Inspiration. That said, please take note of the following.

I am reaching out to you today to provide information and to confirm that two members of our congregation have tested positive for COVID-19. These individuals reported their diagnosis to the church on Wednesday, March 18th, however, their last day at church was Sunday, March 8th.

First, I ask that we pray that our members will fully recover from this. They are currently under medical care and receiving treatment at this time. Second, I ask everyone to **respect the privacy** of any member who is ill or may become ill - even if you believe you know who the person is - so they can focus entirely on their health.

During this time of uncertainty, I ask that you continue to follow the preventative measures and instructions recommended by the Center for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) related to COVID-19, including social distancing, washing hands thoroughly and often, avoiding touching the eyes, nose, and mouth, practicing respiratory hygiene, and sanitizing frequently used surfaces. Also, I ask that you monitor your health using the attached chart provided by the CDC. I want to be clear that you should not panic at this time. Unless you are displaying symptoms, there is absolutely nothing you need to do. Let's thank God we made the prudent decision to cancel church at the time we did to assist in the prevention of the spreading of this virus.

However, if you believe you may have been exposed to COVID-19 after reviewing the chart and assessing known symptoms such as fever, a dry cough, or difficulty breathing, please self-isolate for 14 days, and if your symptoms or other risk factors warrant it, seek testing. Please also notify us immediately via Lemont Watson, Director of Administration, at lwatson@fellowshipchicago.com. Keeping the communication channels open will help us continue to assess any impact on our members and their families.











Please also know that we have enhanced our cleaning practices at the church for the safety and wellbeing of all of our members and guests. We will continue to monitor the situation and update you on any known positive test cases among any additional members as they are reported to us. Please continue to take care of yourself.

Family, this is not information that is pleasing to share, but I want to ensure that you are aware and protected. Let's continue to stand on and be inspired by God's word in Philippians 4:6-7.

"6 Do not worry about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God. 7 And the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus."

Peace Peace,

Reginald W. Sharpe Jr.
Senior Pastor
Fellowship Chicago

Symptoms	Coronavirus Symptoms range from mild to severe	Cold Gradual onset of symptoms	Flu Abrupt onset of symptoms
 Fever	Common	Rare	Common
 Fatigue	Sometimes	Sometimes	Common
 Cough	Common* (usually dry)	Mild	Common* (usually dry)
 Sneezing	No	Common	No
 Aches and pains	Sometimes	Common	Common
 Runny or stuffy nose	Rare	Common	Sometimes
 Sore throat	Sometimes	Common	Sometimes
 Diarrhea	Rare	No	Sometimes for children
 Headaches	Sometimes	Rare	Common
 Shortness of breath	Sometimes	No	No

Sources: World Health Organization, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention