



CALLAHAN FIRST

BAPTIST CHURCH

FOR THE COMMUNITY. FOR THE GOSPEL.

NEWSLETTER

www.callahanfbc.org

Monday, June 1, 2020

Volume 25

Issue 9

CALLAHAN FIRST: SERVING OUR COMMUNITY

CFBC Ministry In The COVID-19 Crisis - A Message from our Pastor

1. You have created an online worship ministry and approximately 12 individuals volunteered to serve in this ministry. This has **expanded the reach of our worship services by up to 7 times of our typical weekend worship attendance.**
2. You have partnered with the Barnabas Center to serve as one of their food distribution sites. This is separate from our CFBC Food Pantry distributions.
3. You partnered with Hadassah's Hope to provide food for unemployed strip club workers they are trying to reach with the Gospel.
4. A **team of 15-20 volunteered to make over 7,000 masks** to be utilized by our Church family, UF Health Hospital, Nassau County Detention Facility, Nassau County School Board, local businesses, and others in the community. You prayed for those who would wear the masks and asked God to draw them to Himself.
5. You partnered with the Nassau County School Board to supplement their student meal program **by purchasing and distributing over 10,000 meals.** You also volunteered to deliver school meals to students who did not have transportation to the distribution site.
6. You partnered with LifeSouth Community Blood Bank and **donated 56 units of desperately needed blood in one day.**
7. You partnered with Hunger Fight ministry to pack meals for their ministry on 4 separate occasions.
8. You sponsored and served at a drive in Easter Service at the Northeast Florida Fairgrounds which drew approximately 1,500 in attendance.
9. You partnered with Nassau County Farm Bureau to distribute 300 boxes of fresh produce to families in our community.
10. Through our CFBC Food Pantry, **you provided food for more than 1,000 families in our community since March 5th.** You used those opportunities to encourage, pray, and share the Gospel with many who came to receive assistance.
11. You **purchased breakfast and shared the Gospel with at least 200 individuals** at McDonald's and Hardee's in Callahan on Friday, May 8th.
12. You are partnering with El Dorado Mexican Restaurant on **June 16th to sponsor "Seniors Taco Tuesday"** for the graduating class of 2020 and using it as an opportunity to serve the graduates and share the Gospel with them.

Thank you for praying and giving sacrificially to support the ministries of your Church as we have tried to not only meet the spiritual, physical, and emotional needs of our Church family but also our community. We are constantly looking for new opportunities to share Jesus. As we move forward and begin opening on-campus Church gatherings we must not turn inward but continue to reach out to those who do not yet know Jesus.



Look for us on Facebook at Callahan First Baptist

www.callahanfbc.org

PHASE 1 HEALTH INITIATIVES



WORSHIPPING SAFELY, TOGETHER

- 1. Live Streaming will continue**
 - **Vulnerable¹** and **high-risk¹** are strongly encouraged to use this service, for now.
 - DVDs and DVD players are available upon request for those unable to watch online.
- 2. Sunday Morning Worship only**
 - Meeting at 10:15am
 - No Bible Fellowship Groups on Sunday mornings. Other opportunities will be provided throughout the week, adhering to strict social-distancing guidelines.
- 3. No Kids Worship or Nursery**
 - Children will attend worship services with their families.
 - Worship Services will be limited to 45 minutes to accommodate those with small children.
- 4. Your safety is our top priority**
 - All facilities and surfaces will be thoroughly cleaned and sanitized to limit the possibility of infection in accordance with the instructions we have received from the Nassau County Health Department.
- 5. All doors will be utilized**
 - Moving you around our campus in a safe manner will require multiple entrances and exits. Please follow the directions of our Welcome Team at all times.
 - At the close of each service your section will be directed to a specific exit to minimize congestion and maintain safe social distancing.
- 6. Face masks are requested**
 - They are available at each entrance as you arrive. If you do not have a personal mask, we would ask you to utilize those provided by the Church.
- 7. Smiles and waves only**
 - Our Welcome Team will greet you with smiles and waves but no hugs or handshakes. The Welcome Team will hold doors for you and they will be wiping any commonly touched surfaces with disinfectant wipes in order to provide another measure of protection for your health.
- 8. Reduced seating in all venues**
 - Approximately half the seating has been roped off in order to provide physical distancing.
 - Families should sit together and maintain at least 6 feet of distance from others sharing the same row.
 - We will have Welcome Team representatives in the Worship Center and alternate worship spaces to assist you and answer questions.
- 9. Multiple venues are available**
 - Should there be a need for additional worship space or if some would prefer not to participate in the Worship Center, the Gym will be set up for live streaming as an alternate worship space. The safety precautions for the Worship Center will be observed in this alternate worship space.
- 10. No worship folders or notes**
 - This is another step to minimize the possibility of being exposed to contaminated surfaces.
- 11. No offering plates will be passed**
 - Offering plates will be located at each entrance as you enter the Worship Center or alternate worship venues. **Online** and **text to give** options will continue to be available.

¹65 years and older and people of all ages with underlying medical conditions such as lung disease, asthma, heart conditions, immunocompromised individuals, severe obesity, diabetes, kidney disease, or liver disease.



Members, please be sure and return your Deacon Nomination Forms by June 7th. It is very important that members are prayerfully considering and then nominating men as deacons. These men are vitally important in the functioning of the church and to provide assistance and support to our staff.



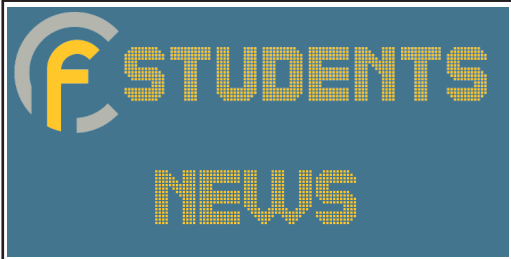
COVID-19 Assistance Available From Barnabas

Callahan First has partnered with Barnabas for many years to help provide help to those in need in the Callahan area. In addition to contributing to their budget yearly, we have provided temporary housing in the past for their Callahan location and currently provide space for weekly food distributions for the Callahan area. They currently distribute food at CFBC every Wednesday from 10:30 am -12:30 pm.

They are a safety-net providing short-term assistance to residents of Nassau County with rent, mortgage and utility payments in times of crisis. Their staff and volunteers can also help those needing to apply for public benefit programs like food stamps and Medicaid.

Currently, they have money from the Florida Relief Fund earmarked for those directly impacted by COVID-19. This includes those who may have been laid off because of closings required by state or federal governments. If you have been impacted and need help, you may contact Barnabas at 904-261-7000 and make an appointment to speak to their staff about assistance. You will need to provide a picture ID and verification from an employer that you have been laid off.

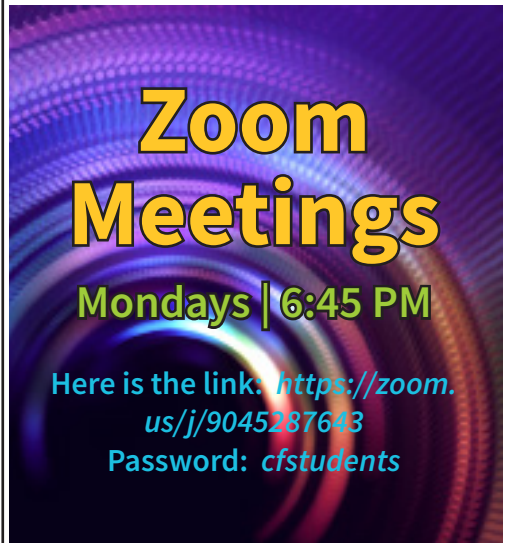
On the west side of the county they also distribute food weekly at Hilliard First Baptist, 3-5 every Wednesday and bi-weekly at the Bryceville Community Club on Motes Road from 12pm-2pm the second and fourth Friday each month (beginning May 22nd.)



Wednesday Night Bible Study Has Resumed!

**6th - 12th Grades
6:45 PM
Gym**

Masks/Bufs are recommended.



Save the dates! Our 2020 Mission Celebration is July 29th - August 2nd.
Mark your calendar!



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Because we will not be able to have a traditional Vacation Bible School this summer, Pastor Steve has come up with an alternate plan! **Beginning Tuesday June 16th and continuing each Tuesday for six more weeks** - our kids will study the first week of earth's history as recorded in Genesis chapter one.

That first night will be totally online, but pray with us that we will eventually be able to meet together on campus for some of the Tuesdays.

Watch for more info on times AND when you can pick up material (designed for kids Kindergarten- 5th grade) to be done at home as they watch.

SUMMER FUN FOR KIDS



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