



# First Baptist Church

## Greensboro

January 5, 2022

First Baptist Family:

As we all adjust to the current surge in COVID infections, I want to remind you that our Task Force of deacons and pastors continues to meet regularly to make timely updates and consider necessary measures for our health and wholeness.

Each time our Task Force meets, we recognize that far and away our most important resource in providing a safe and hospitable environment has been the exceptional care and cooperation of our congregation. There are innumerable stories of resistance and tension in congregations as they have navigated the pandemic. Please know how grateful I am — all of us are — for what your care has enabled in this time, and especially grateful for what it reflects about the health of our church now and in the future.

Because of the care of our congregation, our commitment to safe practices, and the resources of our campus and sanctuary-size, we are confident that we can continue to provide a safe environment for worship and community amidst rising infections. We also support all those in our congregation who will refrain from in-person gathering at this time, and we will continue to provide virtual worship on Facebook and at [fbcgso.org](http://fbcgso.org). We continue to utilize our single-camera stream, but we are eagerly anticipating the improved quality of our livestream with the installation of new equipment planned for early this year.

As we continue in-person gathering, we are also reinstating some additional layers of precaution for the duration of the surge.

- Masks are expected in the building at all times, not merely in large groups. This is a shift from recent adjustments that enabled small groups and classes to make individual group decisions.
- Sanctuary doors will remain open for maximum ventilation prior to the service.
- We will adjust certain practices for small groups, including temporarily suspending any eating together indoors.
- We will hold meetings virtually whenever practicable, including our January Deacons' meeting.
- Our staff have returned to practices of masking in meetings and at all times when not in their individual offices.

- Use of the building by small groups outside of the congregation will be temporarily suspended and reevaluated in two weeks.

In addition to these changes, our Task Force will continue to meet regularly and consider when and if additional precautions should be added.

Our hope with such changes is to make timely, sometimes quiet, shifts in the name of safety and health while continuing the vital ministry of our church through our life-giving practices of worship, community, and service to our community. Thank you for all the ways that your generosity, love, and commitment to the common good make this possible.

A Pastor's Love,



Rev. Alan Sherouse  
Senior Pastor

First Baptist Greensboro COVID-19 Task Force:

Deacons: Adam Barnes, Seth Hix, Debbie Huneycutt (Deacon Chair), Mark McCracken, Tammy Miller and Richard Wiley  
Pastors: Alan Sherouse, Doug Vancil and Courtney Willis