



Mountain *Messenger*

MCCONNELL BAPTIST CHURCH MONTHLY NEWSLETTER
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JUNE 2020

Vacation Bible School @ Home

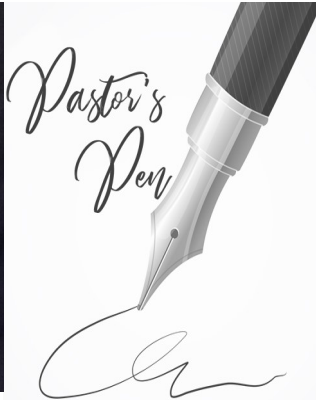


Join us **June 15th-19th for VBS @ home**, as we climb aboard the **Rocky Railway** & ride through the Rocky Mountains on an adventure you will never forget! We will learn how God's power can pull us through any situation. Each day we'll have an exciting worship rally for game time, science experiments, a life changing Bible lesson & some magic from Pastor Danny. Parents, we will have bags with all the materials your elementary age & preschool age kids will need ready for pick up Friday, June 12th, from 9 am until 1 pm or Saturday, June 13th, from 10 am until noon.

It might be a little different, but it's going to be an incredible week! You don't want to miss it, so sign up today at:

<https://vbspro.events/p/1f9d78> (Link is in email)

Please contact Steve Awtrey, children@mcconnellchurch.org or call 205-567-7729 with any questions or concerns you might have!



One of my life verses has always been Proverbs 3:5-6 which says:

Trust in the Lord with all your heart and lean not on your own understanding; ⁶in all your ways submit to him, and he will make your paths straight. Proverbs 3:5-6 (NIV)

The Message Translation puts it a little different;

Trust God from the bottom of your heart; don't try to figure out everything on your own. Listen for God's voice in everything you do, everywhere you go; he's the one who will keep you on track. Proverbs 3:5-6 (MSG)

From the beginning of this crisis, this is what we've been trying to do because our wisdom isn't enough. What Solomon is saying is that when it comes to decision making, one needs to make sure that he or she is listening for God's voice in the midst of the many competing voices that are clamoring for our attention. He will show us what to do and how to do it if we are willing to trust him. That's a big relief for a leader because it takes some of the weight off of their shoulders and places it squarely on the One who is able to carry it.

Still, there is a weight on the shoulders of many leaders regarding the decisions that are before them right now in churches across our country. At McConnell Church, we are working through many important decisions as well. After much prayer, counsel, and reviewing local, state, and national guidelines, we are assembling a Reopening Team and making a tentative plan for a phased return to in-person worship. I say "tentative" because this situation is fluid and seems to change every other day.

While our return to in-person worship will be modified, it will provide an opportunity for those who are ready to assemble for worship—in person! We will be returning to church activities in phases; meaning that only a few things will be attempted at first and other activities will be added to the schedule later. This means that church will look different for a while and we are asking for your patience as we move forward together.

Please take a few minutes to review our **Phased Reopening Plan (attachment)** to know how we will re-introduce the physical gathering of the church body. We will be following up this newsletter with video announcements on our website, Facebook page, and phone messages to our congregation on what they should expect as we move closer to our date.

In these unprecedented times, we have seen our digital footprint grow and we have had opportunity, literally, to preach the Word to the uttermost part of the earth! And, while we remain deeply grateful for what technology has allowed us to do, it is no substitute for gathering and being able to worship together.

We are eagerly anticipating the opportunity for physically re-assembling on June 14th.

Whether you choose to join us for worship in-person, or through livestream, please know that we will anticipate your participation – either way! If you have additional questions pertaining to our services, please contact us through one of the following options:

- Phone: 706-896-2281
- Email: info@mcconnellchurch.org

In Christ

Pastor Steven

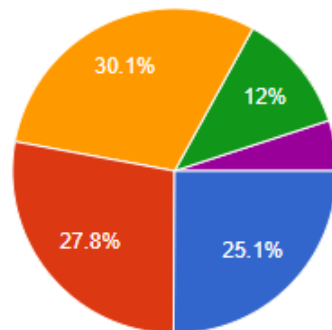
NOTE: With concern for the safety and well-being of our congregation at the forefront of our thoughts, we would ask our church family with pre-existing health conditions or vulnerable immune systems to continue to join us in worship through the means of our livestreamed services.

Return to Church Survey Results

We wanted to share the general results and thank you for participating in this survey!

Which best describes your attitude toward returning to a worship service at church?

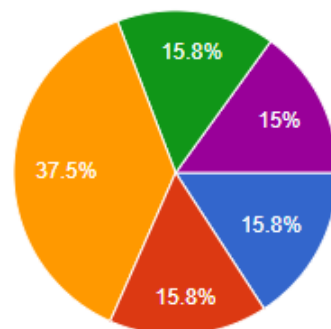
259 responses



- I will return the first opportunity we have.
- I will return at first opportunity but with some concerns and precautions
- I will wait several additional weeks before I attend
- It may be quite a while before I return
- Not sure

I would be comfortable attending if the Worship Center is...

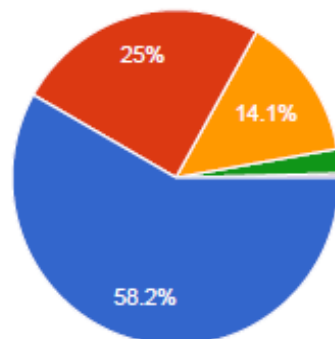
253 responses



- Filled to capacity (every seat taken)
- Three-quarters filled (some empty seats throughout but no empty rows)
- Half filled (most people have empty seats either beside them or in front of them)
- One quarter filled (most people have empty seats beside them and in front of them)
- None of these (at least right away)

Which of the following would you prefer for our church?

256 responses



- Continue offering online worship services via Facebook & YouTube.
- Resume in person worship services at our church immediately
- Not sure (Leave comment below)
- Not sure
- Maybe June

Servants in Service

Greeter Team - #10

Security - L. Thorpe

Ushers - Morning: L. Wroten, Head Usher

Balcony Usher: D. Shively

M. Avery, A. Driskell, J. Kelley, S. Ledford, C. Nicholson,
D. Oliver, J. Wagener

June 14th

FIRST TOUCH - B. Arnett, N. Donegan

WELCOME DESK - B. Stultz & M. Stickeler

INVITATION TEAM - B. McDaniels, P. Turner

WELCOME CARTS - Capt. - R. Parkman

S. Berkstresser, M. McFerrin, D. Willrich

June 21st

FIRST TOUCH - J. & K. Gallogly

WELCOME DESK - D. Harrison & P. Wroten

INVITATION TEAM - B. & P. Miller

WELCOME CARTS - Capt. - B. Cone

R. Stone, G. Boyd, B. Miller

June 28th

FIRST TOUCH - A. & A. Lawrence

WELCOME DESK - P. Driskell & D. Heard

INVITATION TEAM - D. Ledford, T. Turner

WELCOME CARTS - Capt. - R. Peterson

L. Ratliff, D. Bennett, L. Smith



Sympathy to

The family of **J.C. Berrong** & to Brenda Franklin, at the death of J.C. Berrong.

Mike & Cheryl Bleckley, at the death of Mike's mother, Effie Bleckley.

Kimberly & Eddie Hales, at the death of Kimberly's dad, Billy Shadwick.

Osborn Cemetery & Columbarium

For McConnell Church Members - a member of our cemetery team, Dianne Nelson, is available to answer questions and take reservations for the cemetery or columbarium. If you are interested, call the church office or Dianne at 706-896-7736 to schedule an appointment.

Deacon Recommendations

McConnell Church members - The deadline for submitting your recommendations for the office of deacons for the coming year is fast approaching! Our deacons serve for terms of three years after having been nominated and elected by the church. Nominees must be a McConnell church member for at least one year and meet the biblical requirements for serving. The link to the Deacon Recommendation form is in the email. Enter the names of your recommendations and submit online from the comfort of your own home!

If you do not have access to the website, call the church office at 706-896-2281 and we will take your recommendations by phone. The deadline for submitting recommendations is **Sunday, June 21st**.

Upcoming Events - Tentative

Sunday, July 5th - Annual Church Picnic, GA Mountain Fairgrounds, Lower Pavilion, 6 pm.