



652 Luckney Rd.
Brandon, MS 39042
601-591-1267
nvoffice@nvfms.org
www.nvfms.org

Greetings,

We trust that you are prospering, in good health and encouraged in the faithfulness of our God. As a country and as citizens of the world, we have been fighting the COVID-19 pandemic for some time now. In response to this pandemic and in cooperation with government officials, we transitioned our in-person services to online services. We have been doing this since March and we thank each of you for your continued support and commitment to our local faith community. During this time, we have continued ministry to the sick, support for local, national and international outreach efforts, corporate prayer, pastoral care, and many other ministry activities. We have demonstrated that the Lord's church cannot be stopped and is not "closed". Methods may change but message and ministry can never stop.

Over the past several months, health professionals have learned more about the coronavirus and the general concensus is that, this virus may be around for a while (some experts predict two years). Therefore, as a community, we must find ways to mitigate the disease and maintain important aspects of our culture and livelihood. We must understand the characteristics of the virus, how it is transmitted and how to protect ourselves.

There are things that we can do to help mitigate infection. Physical distancing (also called social distancing), wearing masks, being thoughtful about where and when you go someplace, and being considerate about others are effective safety precautions that help with managing infection rates.

Safety precautions are tools to help manage infections. We have encouraged everyone in our faith community to use masks and distancing practices. These are the tools that we have to help manage infections and not just for yourself, but others. The primary purpose of masks is to lessen the likelihood of infecting someone else. It is the thoughtful and caring thing to do.

As Christian leaders, we desire to paint a realistic picture of where we are and what **WE** need to do to move forward and establish a new "normal". With this being said, NVF will offer a pallet of worship options. Worshippers will be able to choose parking lot, online or in-person worship.

With escalating numbers in Mississippi, we have delayed re-opening our in-person services. Our reopening plans will be measured and will consider actual infection rates and hospitalizations in our region. When we re-open for in-person service, we are encouraging all members who have pre-existing conditions, who are in high risk categories, who are not feeling well or who are uncomfortable being near people to utilize either the online or parking lot worship option. In-person worship is an option only for those who are not sick, are not in high risk groups and who are totally comfortable being in a space with other people. The in-person services will utilize physical distancing, encourage the use of masks, and require hand sanitization as well as other safety precautions. These measures will help us establish a new "normal" and will help take a bite out of COVID19.



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Please be prayerful as we all navigate these new waters. Our goal is to fulfill our ministry mandates in a safe worship environment, an environment that will help us effectively minister to our members and our community in a safe and powerful way. Click this link [In-Person Worship Protocol](#) for guidelines that our medical professionals developed to help with creating a safe worship environment. These guidelines were developed by utilizing CDC guidelines, Mississippi Department of Health guidelines, recommendations from other churches and our medical professional's personal expertise.

In summary, remember that this too shall pass, and we pray that all people everywhere will recognize our need and dependency on our Heavenly Father. Seek opportunities to do good during this time and allow the love of Jesus to flow through you to a world in great need. We declare God's blessings over you and yours.

Love & prayers,
Pastors Juan & Robin

For further information, please go to the following websites:

<https://www.cdc.gov/> (Centers for Disease Control)

<https://msdh.ms.gov/> (Mississippi State Health Department)