

# Franklin Street

C H U R C H O F C H R I S T

## **ELDERS**

Austin Banks  
Sidney Reed

## **MINISTER**

Emmet Collins

## **GOD'S PLAN OF SALVATION**

Hear—Romans 10:10  
Believe—Hebrews 11:6  
Repent—Luke 13:3  
Confess—Romans 10:9  
Baptism—Mark 16:15-16

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Dear Members,

While we are working from home, limiting our social gatherings and suspending our participation in large physical assemblies, we have significant opportunities. Using this time to be productive, to engage in learning and to prepare for safe practices is essential.

We can use this time productively. A maxim once heard as a child taught us to avoid habitual idleness. “An idle mind is the devil’s workshop,” it said. God’s Word consistently discourages being idle and often applauds being industrious. The hard-working ways of the virtuous woman are praised by the observation that she “does not eat the bread of idleness” (Proverbs 31:27). The irresponsible ways of the lazy man are condemned by the words, “Through idleness of the hands, the house drops through” (Ecclesiastes 10:18). Each of us must use this time of limited mobility to engage in far-reaching work.

We must continue to operate safely. Another truism – “An ounce of prevention is worth a pound of cure,” is supremely true in the coronavirus era. We were among the first local congregations to suspend physical gatherings. That “ounce of prevention” kept the Franklin Street Church from originating a cluster of illnesses. Our “ounce of prevention” has protected the lives of members and those with whom we physically interact. Maintaining our “ounce of prevention,” we will not prematurely reopen physical assemblies. We have discussed worship at Franklin Street. These talks have yielded critical insights which will prepare us for safe resumption of physical assemblies when the risk is greatly reduced. The nature of the pandemic is such that even the experts can only guess when risks will be reduced to an acceptable level. We must continue gathering only by the power of technology until change is prudent, as recommended by the Centers for Disease Control and Louisiana Governor.

Let us use this time productively, engage our minds effectively and appreciate how our ounce of prevention reflects our ton of faith. May God continue to bless us to be “A Bible Believing, People Caring Church.”

May God Bless the Franklin Street Church of Christ  
The Elders