

# The Current



A Monthly Publication of Boiling Springs Baptist Church

June 2020 Volume 5 Issue 6

## KEITH'S KORNER

### Looking ahead for BSBC and a timely message from the prophet Jeremiah

In the Old Testament book of Jeremiah, the prophet communicates a timely message for the exiled people of God both then and today. In chapter 29, we find God's people in a foreign land called Babylon and they are unhappy, discouraged, restless, and constantly fantasizing about returning to the way things were. They were not happy with their current reality. Sound familiar? Into this context of wishing things were different, God sends them some advice in the form of a letter written by Jeremiah.

In chapter 29, Jeremiah is instructed to tell the people to *"build houses, plant gardens, take wives and multiply."* He also instructs them to *"Seek the welfare of the city and pray to the Lord on its behalf; for in its welfare you will have welfare."* In verse 10, he communicates God's message to the people that God will one day *"bring you back to this place."* Oh, how we all look forward to the day when Boiling Springs Baptist Church (BSBC) can once again come back and worship together in our sanctuary! Even the most cautious and concerned among us look forward to this day. God's message spoken through Jeremiah could be interpreted as make the best of the here and now. Bloom where you are planted. Life must go on, even in exile. Will you join me in actively seeking and pursuing ways to be the people of God during this time? Let's look for and not miss opportunities to grow spiritually and serve others now while we yearn, pray and wait for a better tomorrow. Can I begin a new study? Prayer routine? Can I shop or run errands for someone in the vulnerable category? Can I encourage nurses or other front-line workers with a call, letter or card? Help someone with an outdoor project? New spiritual disciplines and acts of service and love may look a little different for each of us, but now is the time and today is the day.

The staff and other leaders have been learning more about COVID-19 and discussing when and how we may safely come "back to this place" of worship at BSBC. As we acknowledge that we are in a place we don't want to be (like the exiled in Jeremiah), and as we "seek the welfare of our city," we have much to consider in doing so.

The first consideration is for our older and vulnerable church members. Recently, one of our deacons looked through our current directory of 164 family units and identified 91 individuals that would qualify as high risk due to age or other health concerns. Knowing this and knowing that your input is important for future worship and meeting plans, we sent a survey asking for your feedback. Enclosed in this issue of The Current you will find the results of this recent church survey. Data can be interpreted in various ways, but one thing is clear — we have many who are deeply concerned about the risk of contracting this virus. Some will say the vulnerable should stay at home, which is true. Unfortunately, many in this category will come if there is in-person worship.

The only in-person worship option being considered, and the safest avenue for in-person worship that could take place during the month of June, is a drive-in worship service where individuals stay in their vehicle. For some, this option would be meaningful, but we also understand others may enjoy and worship better through what is currently being offered online. Taking into consideration the size of our parking lot and the numbers that could attend, an FM transmitter would be needed for everyone to properly hear the service. A transmitter was ordered several weeks ago and is not scheduled to arrive until late June or early July. If a transmitter can be secured earlier than this, leaders will once again discuss this option and consider moving forward. This outdoor drive-in worship option would be a shorter service than the ones we are accustomed to having in the sanctuary. Restrooms at the picnic shelter would be available only for emergencies, and someone would be present to assist with the distribution of a mask and follow up with the necessary disinfecting. If drive-in worship becomes available in June, information will be communicated through all platforms including a church-wide mailing. As the days are warming, it is possible this service would take place earlier than 10:55 a.m.

Based on the feedback in our church survey, what we have learned about the spread of this virus, information from the state of NC, and the unknown results of the NC phase two re-opening plan, we are not recommending indoor in-person worship during the month of June. Staff and leaders will re-evaluate and discuss plans moving forward near the end of phase two (currently set to end June 26).

I understand the above decisions will not please those who think we can be worshiping in the sanctuary now with proper precautions. Please know that BSBC is not alone in the decisions we have made. Other great churches in our area and throughout the state have made, and are making, similar decisions. No one church has the perfect scenario for how and when to begin worshiping indoors again. From my personal perspective I would rather have someone mad at me because we are not worshiping indoors than to have someone become sick and die due to contracting COVID-19 at a BSBC sponsored service or meeting. Thanks for your continued prayers, and please take some time to ponder the meaningful words found in Jeremiah 29:1-14, a passage that includes the great promise:

*'For I know the plans that I have for you,' declares the Lord, 'plans for welfare and not for calamity to give you a future and a hope.'*

## FROM THE BSBC MUSIC COMMITTEE

### Music Committee Unanimously Recommends No Group Singing at BSBC at This Time

The ACDA (American Choral Directors Association), NATS (National Association of Teachers of Singing), PAMA (Performing Arts Medicine Association), and the Barbershop Harmony Society have taken the stance that group singing is not a safe thing to do at this time. Singers are considered “super spreaders” of the COVID-19 virus. These groups have absolutely nothing to gain from making this recommendation. They actually have everything to lose. They have taken a stance on this due to their concern for the health and safety of those with whom they work as well as those who may be a part of an audience or a congregation. The ACDA specifically has warned its members and friends that there is no safe way for choirs to rehearse together at this time and that there should be no concerts or public performances at least for some time to come. Masks and spacing do not protect singers from contagion.

The Music Committee met via Zoom and discussed this at length. They unanimously recommend that we, the people of Boiling Springs Baptist Church, do not participate in any in-person group singing until the time we deem it safe and appropriate. (A primer on what happens when one sings is found elsewhere in this newsletter.)

Churches have been identified as the source of outbreaks around the country and the world. The members of the Music Committee are in agreement that we should err on the side of caution. A few years from now, when all is said and done, and we look back on this moment, we may say “Wow, we were super cautious. Wasn’t that kind of crazy?” But we would rather look back and say that than to say “I really wish we had a do-over.”

### A Quick Primer on the Singing Process

- When a person speaks or sings, air originates in the lungs and is expelled through the muscle action of the diaphragm and the muscles in the rib cage.
- The air that travels out of the body is not dry. What is expelled is expelled in a cloud like an aerosol.
- These aerosols are very efficient virus carriers and can hang in the air for hours at a time, an indeterminate amount of time depending on ventilation and breezes.
- Because these aerosols can spread far and long, there does not seem to be any amount of physical distancing in an indoor space to mitigate aerosol spread.

### Breaking News from the Performing Arts World as of May 20, 2020

A number of performing arts organizations, including ACDA, have joined forces to commission a study on the effects of COVID-19 and the risks in performing arts classrooms and performance venues. Specifically, the study will examine aerosol rates produced by vocalists, wind instrumentalists, and actors, and how quickly those aerosol rates accumulate in a space. Once the aerosol rates are better understood, the study will focus on the remediation of aerosols in confined spaces like rehearsal rooms and performance spaces in order to develop better understanding, policy, and practice for a safe return to performance and education.

## FROM OUR ASSOCIATE PASTOR FOR MUSIC & ADULTS

*By the rivers of Babylon—there we sat down and there we wept when we remembered Zion. On the willows there we hung up our harps. For there our captors asked us for songs, and our tormenters asked for mirth, saying, “Sing us one of the songs of Zion!” How could we sing the Lord’s song in a foreign land? Psalm 137:1-4*

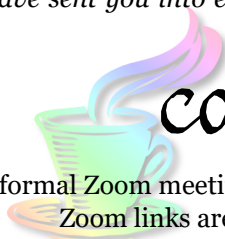
This scripture is thought to have been written while the Hebrew people were exiles in Babylon or shortly after their return from Babylon. The “songs of Zion” are thought to be the joyful songs sung by pilgrims visiting the city and these songs are tied closely to the place itself, they cannot be sung elsewhere. Although remembering Jerusalem was painful, to forget the city would mean permanent silence—that is, death. Memory sustains hope. Right now, we all feel like we are exiles in a foreign land and the choir especially feels that way right now. We remember singing God’s songs together in our Jerusalem and we miss that; but, like the Hebrew people, we have hope.

“How *will* we sing God’s song in this foreign land?” The choir will sing because we have to. We are a singing people. God has called us to sing and we can do no other. The choir is now hard at work in a safe and virtual way preparing music to share with you in the near future. Please keep them in your prayers. It is a huge undertaking and a challenge. But we are “up for the challenge.” It will take some doing but we are committed to find ways to sing while we are in Babylon. And we are committed to share choir music with you in a different way.

We are reminded of what Jeremiah said to those in exile in Babylon:

*“Seek the welfare of the city where I have sent you into exile and pray to the Lord on its behalf, for in its welfare you will find your welfare.”*

In God’s service with you. - Candy



coffee with the pastor  
Wednesdays at 11:00 a.m.

An informal Zoom meeting to catch up with each other, and have devotion and prayer time. Zoom links are emailed with the Weekly Update. Everyone is welcome!



## PRESCHOOL AND CHILDREN

**Levi gave Will a gift for his birthday, "Thank you, Levi!" said Will.**

Do you ever get presents? Do you remember to say thank you? It's important to say thank you when someone gives you a gift. Did you know that God gives us presents every day? He gives us our home and food. He gives us sunshine and rain. Those are all gifts. During this time of crisis, we are blessed with the gift of being healthy! Remember to say thank you God for everything he gives you every day.

As we go into the summer months after a mixed school year of activities in our children and pre-k department, I want to again say thank you to the many people who helped make Sunday and Wednesday evening successful! You made it happen, and the children and I are so grateful for your time, energy, and most importantly, your love.

I want to say thank you to all the parents who supported our pre-k and children activities during this school year. I am most grateful for all your encouraging words and most importantly for your bringing your children to our church activities. Under difficult circumstances it has been an awesome year! Thank you!

The school year ends and the summer of distancing ourselves begins. There are activities being planned for family and children this summer as best we can we work to stay healthy. As we plan and look at the summer, I encourage you as parents to share your ideas for things we can do. Please let me know if you want your children to participate in the summer Bucket Series. This will be a summer of spending time with family and I encourage you to enjoy this gift! Families are precious!

Our Summer Bucket Series will start on June 2, 2020 and I encourage you to come by the Prayer Room and pick up your bucket and bag for the week. Each family will have a bucket and bag which has the week's Bible lesson, a related craft, activities, and a fun project. We will also be doing a CARE activity. And as always, an encouraging word from Miss Ellen.

## CHURCH NEWS

Dear Friends,

During my 15-year tenure as BSBC's pianist, I have experienced immense joy and satisfaction. However, I have decided to retire from this position, effective immediately. I am extremely grateful for the love, encouragement, and support from the congregation, the choir, and Candy, and I thank you for the opportunity to serve.

I ask that you honor my request for no recognition ceremony, love offering, flowers, or other tangible displays; the church has been more than generous over the years!!

Love in Christ,

*-Cheyrl Daves*

Please look for the [Online Giving](#) button on the church website to take you to a secure site where you may give to the general budget, Food Pantry, youth and children's programs, missions, and more. Text **BSBC** to **73256** for a link to the same site to donate by phone. You may call the church office on Monday mornings to give with a credit card.

## For the Record

**Basic Weekly Budget Needs: \$12,190.47**

### FINANCIAL INFORMATION

*for May 2020*

May 3	\$10,177.00
May 10	\$12,507.00
May 17	\$7,415.00
May 24	\$11,106.00

Online  
Giving

[When viewing online,  
click here to give!](#)

## Heartfelt Christian Sympathy

to the family and friends of:

### Jack Hunt

*grandfather of Jim Martin  
(and wife, Kacie McKee  
Martin)*

### Dorothy Faile

*mother of Cecil Faile (wife  
Lisa), former members*

### Judy Lewis

*sister of Betty Holland and  
Wilbur Banning*

## BSBC EMAIL AND TEXT COMMUNICATION

Phone and email messages will be checked during the day. Stay in touch by receiving The Current, Weekly Update, Prayer List, and important messages in your email by calling the church office, or emailing to [info@boilingspringsbaptist.org](mailto:info@boilingspringsbaptist.org)

To receive important  
information by text,  
**text BSBC to 95577**

Be sure to like our BSBC  
Facebook pages:



Boiling Springs Baptist Church  
BSBC Parish Nurse Committee  
Boiling Springs Baptist Youth  
Boiling Springs Baptist Church  
Daycare



Becky Wallace ..... 2  
Sara Anthony .....12  
Sue Rash.....19  
Charles Bridges..... 22

# Boiling Springs

## Baptist Church

Non-Profit Organization  
U.S. POSTAGE  
PAID  
Permit No. 2  
Boiling Springs N.C.  
28017

Boiling Springs Baptist Church  
P.O. Box 917  
307 S. Main Street  
Boiling Springs, NC 28017

ADDRESS SERVICE  
REQUESTED

Phone: 704-434-6244  
Fax: 704-434-2990

Email:  
info@boilingspringsbaptist.org

Website:  
www.boilingspringsbaptist.org



### CHURCH SCHEDULE

#### OFFICE HOURS

Monday 9:00 - 11:00 a.m.  
Subject to change.  
Limited building access.  
Offering drop box in office lobby.

#### FOOD PANTRY

T-W 9:00 to 11:00 a.m.  
We will continue the Food Pantry  
as long as possible.

#### SUNDAY SCHOOL

Many classes are meeting online  
with Zoom. Contact your teacher  
to find online availability.  
YouTube videos are linked to the  
church Facebook page as they are  
made available.

#### MORNING WORSHIP

Services with a combination of  
music and video segments from  
recent worship services, with new  
messages and children's sermons  
to help us continue to worship  
together during this time that we  
can't be together physically are  
being posted to YouTube. These  
are linked to the church Facebook  
page every Sunday morning.  
DVDs available upon request.

#### WEEKDAY MEETINGS

No in-person meetings at this  
time. Please check with group  
leaders for additional  
information.

Thank You!

**For your donations to the Food  
Pantry and Backpack Program!  
Thank you for helping feed hungry  
families in our community!**

Backpacks are being filled and delivered as  
part of the school lunch program. To donate,  
contact Ellen Humphries.

#### THE CURRENT Newsletter Information

All information for this newsletter should  
be submitted by the **20<sup>th</sup> of each month**  
to meet our publishing deadline.

#### THANK YOU

to all who help get *The Current* ready for  
mailing each month. Your service is  
greatly appreciated.

### CHURCH STAFF

**Rev. Keith McKinney**  
Pastor

keith@boilingspringsbaptist.org

**Rev. Candy Wilson**  
Assoc. Pastor for Music and Adults  
candy@boilingspringsbaptist.org

**Roger Lowe**  
Minister for Media and Technology  
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**Ellen Humphries**  
Minister for Preschool and Children  
ellen@boilingspringsbaptist.org

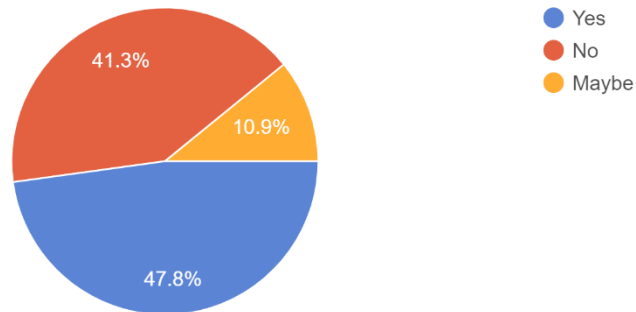
**Heidi Dobbins**  
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**Tracey Lipscomb**  
Interim Daycare Director  
daycare@boilingspringsbaptist.org

# BSBC Worship Survey Results

With the above precautions in place, would you be likely to attend?

92 responses



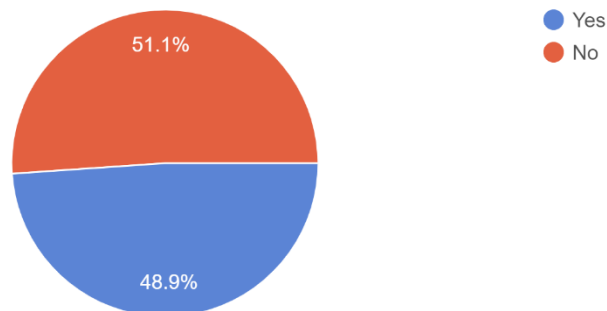
Which of the following options would allow you to feel most comfortable in returning to in person worship?

92 responses



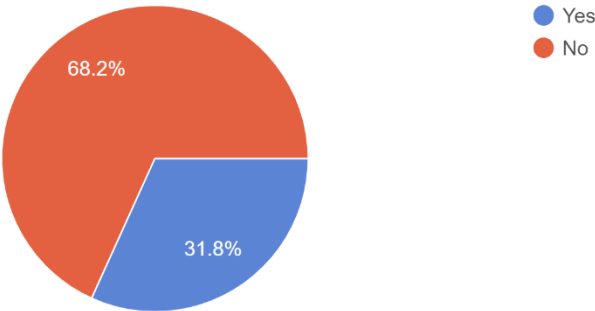
Would you prefer we hold off on providing in-person gatherings until a time we deem we can do so somewhat safely in the sanctuary?

92 responses



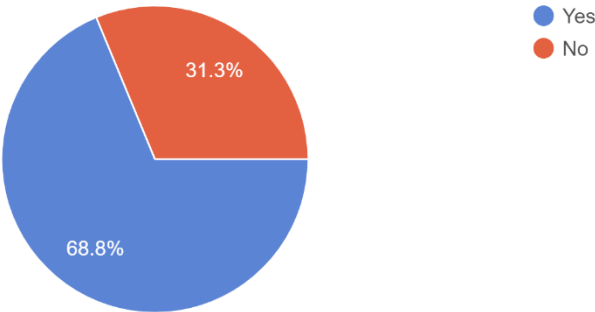
Would you be willing/able to donate your time and energy to work with that process on a regular basis?

85 responses



I cannot donate my time but I am willing/able to donate financially (over and above my regular tithe) for cleaning supplies and additional cleaning personnel.

80 responses



I cannot donate time and cannot donate financially for supplies but I am able (and willing) to run necessary errands (possibly to other counties or states) to obtain needed cleaning supplies.

66 responses

