

9/22/21-RFBC Funeral and Burial COVID-19 PLAN

Praises be unto God for all the good things He hath done!

I personally want to thank each of you for your prayers and concerns for our nation, state, county, faith communities and families across this nation that are challenged and affected with the Coronavirus (COVID-19).

Over the past week or so, we have continually been bombarded with one news update after another that share the challenging numbers of infections and deaths of persons that have been affected by this devastating virus.

However, with all the tensions, anxieties, and unrest that we are exposed to, the questions and concerns continue to loom relative to various directives ordered by local, state and national leaders.

The word of God and the Holy Spirit encourages us to be good stewards of ourselves and all those that are around us.

As your shepherd, I also want to encourage each member and family to exercise caution and maintenance of ourselves and each other during these very crucial times.

Therefore, we must take into account that this virus is not a friend to our well-being or the well-being of others.

Each American citizen must reassess their normal trend of activities and readapt, reposition, rethink, refocus and transition into this new normal until we get beyond this Pandemic. The goal of this change is not just for the good of ourselves but for the good of all. **We All Must Behave As if We Have The Virus.**

We must do all we can to flatten the statistical curve by staying at home, staying away from large gatherings, especially if you are sick or immunocompromised! Because no one knows if they have the virus unless they have been tested and therefore, should limit themselves from the engagement and contact with others.

We are practicing Social Distancing by maintaining a distance of six-feet between ourselves and other persons. No hugging or fist bumping, however, elbow bumping or just waving, or speaking will be appropriate at this time.

We must continue to practice excellent hygiene, by washing our hands and faces using the 20 second rule, sanitizing all touch surfaces, in our homes, cars, offices or places of work, pumping gas, entering doors, wear latex gloves when possible in areas that they may be compromised and discard of them when you leave that area, wear mask etc.

Uncertainty should not lead to inaction!

Four out of five people who get this virus get it from people who did not know they had it!

How do we deal with uncertainty? Be as certain as possible by making things as sterile as possible!

Therefore because of the request of the CDC we are going to adapt to the following schedule and directives to curtail the growth of COVID-19.

Effective Immediately for Funerals/Home-going/Memorial Services at Reedy Fork Baptist Church:

It is with great humility that we assume this awesome responsibility to service you and your family during the passing of your loved one.

We take the safety and health of your family and our staff and members very seriously. We always strive to exceed the expectations of every family and will continue to do so during this challenging time. Please feel confident that we have taken extra precautions to ensure our facility is sanitized and safe to visit.

Please help us keep our Staff and volunteers, and facility safe and clean by observing the following recommendations:

If you are sick, please do not come to the Church. This includes nausea, vomiting, cough, fever, chills, sweats, fatigue or any other symptoms that indicate you are not well. The bereaved family will be happy to hear from you by phone, electronically or other condolences.

Please wash your hands frequently. Use hand sanitizer upon entry and exit of our facilities. It is recommended that you bring your personal hand sanitizer, facial masks, and nitrile gloves, if needed.

The CDC has recommended all public and private businesses and churches to limit public gatherings to social distancing capacity to prevent the spread of COVID-19. Reedy Fork Baptist Church has adopted this recommendation, limiting sanctuary capacity to 90-100 person, and it will be in effect until it is deemed safe by the CDC to return to business as usual.

We are recommending that only immediate family members as listed below attend the service during COVID-19. If more than 90-100 people desire to attend the funeral service, please note that a family representative will be appointed to manage the guest list and limit to the above capacity.

| | | | | |
|--------------|--------------|-------------|-------------|----------------|
| Spouse | Parent | Child | Brother | Sister |
| Half-brother | Half-sister | In-laws | Grandparent | Grandchildren |
| Step-child | Step-brother | Step-sister | Step-parent | Nieces/Nephews |

Extended family members and guests are encouraged to participate via live-streaming or visit the funeral home in lieu of attending the service, if authorized by the family.

Additionally, we are suspending the feeding of families on site during the Coronavirus pandemic.

Finally, let us be reminded that any family members that are immunocompromised or ill are request to please stay home during the funeral service.

We understand this is a difficult request; however, it is imperative that we take every precaution to prevent the spread of illness and disease.

We strongly recommend that all persons continue to follow the guidelines of social distancing; refraining from shaking hands, hugging, and kissing etc.

Please note that these are recommendations adopted by Reedy Fork Baptist Church. Please remember that your attendance at any funeral service or public gathering is at YOUR OWN RISK.

The Reedy Fork Baptist Church will go above and beyond to accommodate your requests and exceed your expectations.

Again, it is our goal to assist you in any way possible during the passing of your loved one. Still, we need your help. COVID - 19 is sweeping the nation and is requiring our immediate attention and adjustments in the way we manage our services.

Please be considerate of this and help us as we try to keep our families, staff and facilities safe.

*Thank you for your support and considerations,
Pastor Simmons and The Reedy Fork Church Family*

Reedy Fork Baptist Church