

## **Tabernacle Missionary Baptist Church**

2080 WEST GRAND BOULEVARD DETROIT, MICHIGAN 48208 Telephone: 313-898-3325 FAX: 313-898-7347 Nathan Johnson, D.D., Senior Pastor

April 24, 2020

To My Tabernacle Family,

Greetings in the Name of our Wonderful Savior, Jesus the Christ! God has brought us through a month of the "Stay At Home" order. I realize that these are strange times, but we are comforted in these times because we have no strange God with us. The God who is with us is the One who promised to be with us. He has promised to be with us in good times, bad times, times of health, times of sickness, times of joy, and times of sorrow. It is my prayer that you have felt God's presence with you. Even in this we must live out the truth of Proverbs 3:5-6 which states: "*Trust in the LORD with all your heart; do not depend on your own understanding. Seek His will in all you do, and He will show you which path to take.*" (Proverbs 3:5–6, NLT)

I am grateful to you for your faithfulness to Tabernacle during these trying times. I have seen the evidence of your viewing of our online services and I say, "thank you." I also want to thank those of you who are listening to our services by means of the telephone. It also is good to hear of the various ways the Deacon's Groups and Ministries are staying connected with the members of our church family. Your continued financial support has enabled us to take care of the business of the church. For that I am thankful.

I wish I could tell you when this period of our lives will be over, but I cannot do that. But, I can tell you this, that God will see us through this. As we wait for God to bring us out of this, I encourage you to stay faithful.

- Let your faithfulness be shown in your participation in the opportunities to study the Word, to pray together, and to worship together. These opportunities are all accessible from our website (www.tmbcdetroit.org).
- Let your faithfulness be shown in your financial support of our church. You can do this by using Givelify or PayPal (<u>www.tmbcdetroit.org</u>). You may also mail your gifts to the church.
- Let your faithfulness be shown by staying in touch with one another. A phone call will go a long way in these times of social distancing.

Be assured that I am praying for you. Always remember that God is with us and He will see us through this. The words of a hymn that I recall from my childhood seems appropriate to close this communication.

Blest be the tie that binds our hearts in Christian love! The fellowship of kindred minds is like to that above.

Before our Father's throne we pour our ardent prayers; our fears, our hopes, our aims are one, our comforts and our cares.

We share our mutual woes, our mutual burdens bear; and often for each other flows the sympathizing tear.

When we as under part it gives us inward pain; but we shall still be joined in heart, and hope to meet again.<sup>1</sup>

Shalom! mare athan Johnson, D.D., Senior Pastor

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Osbeck, K. W. (1996). <u>Amazing grace: 366 inspiring hymn stories for daily devotions</u> (p. 66). Grand Rapids, MI: Kregel Publications.