



Finding Sanctuary

Individual Reflection and Prayer during the COVID-19 Pandemic

Members and friends of First Baptist Church of Asheville may discover sanctuary as we offer scheduled times for prayer and reflection. The main sanctuary and Sacred Garden are open for individuals. Members and friends may come to pray in the sanctuary, walk the labyrinth, or rest in silence in the sacred garden.

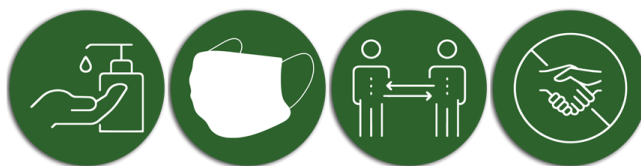
Schedule for Individual Reflection and Prayer

- The Sacred Garden will be open Monday-Friday from 9:00 a.m. until 4:00 p.m. and may be accessed through the main gate near the sanctuary entrance. Restrooms will not be available for use during this time.
- The Sanctuary will be open at the hours below. These times will be hosted by a volunteer. Seating in the sanctuary will be limited. Enter through the main doors or through the chapel entrance. Restrooms will be available during these hours.
 - Tuesday- 11:30 a.m. – 2:00 p.m.
 - Wednesday- 11:30 a.m. – 2:00 p.m.

Protocols for Gathering

Building and Grounds use is more restricted at FBCA during the COVID-19 pandemic. This enables the staff to:

- Limit the total number of people in the building.
- Limit needed cleaning and sanitation to keep everyone safe.
- Shield the children and teachers at our Child Development Center from possible exposure.
- Allow room for limited number of AFTA students.
- Allow room for targeted mission projects.
- Maintain safety for staff and those filming worship on Thursdays.



Guidelines for Individuals

- Park in the front lot near the sanctuary steps and sacred garden. Please do not use the atrium or first floor entrances.
- Maintain physical distancing (at least six feet) at all gatherings.

- Wear a mask in the sanctuary and sacred garden, including hallways and restrooms.
- Sanitize or wash hands when entering the building. Sanitizer will be placed at the two entrances.
- If anyone has symptoms of virus (fever, chills, persistent cough, difficulty breathing, etc.) or lives with someone who does, that person should stay home.
- Respect small groups who will have priority in the sacred garden or sanctuary.

Sanctuary

The sanctuary will have designated pews for people to come pray. No more than 10 people can be in the sanctuary at a time and will enter through the front sanctuary doors or through the sacred garden entrance. Restrooms are available just outside the organ entrance to the main floor of the sanctuary.

Labyrinth

Only one person (or persons who have been quarantined together) should walk the labyrinth at a time to allow for appropriate physician distancing.

Sacred Garden

No more than 10 persons may be in the Sacred Garden at any time to allow for privacy as well as appropriate physical distancing.

Guidelines of Church Small Group Activities

Small groups may gather either in the church parking lot, in the Sacred Garden, or in certain locations in the church facility. To schedule a gathering, the group leader should review the “Guidelines of Church Small Group Activities” document and must sign up for time by calling the church office (828.252.4781) and completing an online [form](#).



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