

USM cancels commencement ceremonies

Special to Long Beach Breeze

The University of Southern Mississippi recently announced that USM will not be able to host Commencement ceremonies that were tentatively rescheduled for August, citing public health officials' significant concern for spikes in cases of COVID-19 across the state and strongly advising against large gatherings.

In an official statement, the university said, "We understand that Commencement is among the most treasured traditions for our graduating students and their families, and we remain committed to welcoming all Class of 2020 graduates as participants in the next Commencement ceremonies we are able to host in person. Specific information regarding next steps has been sent to graduates via email and may be accessed

online."

"We extend our sincere apologies to our Class of 2020, and we share in the disappointment of this difficult decision, but we are concerned about the elevated risk associated with the size of our graduating class and guests gathering in one location."

The university said that the difficulty in predicting the status of evolving public health guidelines may result in changes to plans for Commencement ceremonies currently scheduled for December,



as well. University officials are continuing to monitor all applicable public health guidance and will communicate a final decision regarding December ceremonies by September 15.

The USM Fall 2020 academic calendar has been condensed to minimize student travel to help prevent the potential spread of COVID-19.

The new calendar calls for classes to begin on Monday, August 17. The two days formerly scheduled as fall break will be regular class

meeting days.

The last day of instruction for the semester will be Monday, November 23, followed by a reading day on Tuesday, November 24.

Final exams will be held online the week of November 30 for the majority of classes.

The modified fall calendar is one part of a comprehensive strategy the University is developing and implementing to help ensure a successful academic year for students, faculty and staff. Additional health protocols and procedures will be implemented in the fall, following ongoing consultation with public health officials and forthcoming guidance from the IHL Safe Start Task Force.

The USM Fall 2020 academic calendar can be viewed online at <https://bit.ly/30t0gOR>. Commencement information can be found at <https://bit.ly/2B3FbjX>.

PLACES OF WORSHIP

Include your church in this section!

FRED WELLER - Long Beach Breeze - 228-265-9276 ext. 4



Long Beach Community Church
186 East Old Pass Road
Long Beach, Mississippi 39560
(Behind Post Office)
228-224-6500

Service Times:
Sunday A.M. - Bible Study-9:30; Worship-10:30
Sunday P.M. - 5:00
Wednesday - Bible Study-6:00 p.m.
Watch us at 11:00 A.M. on Sunday

facebook.com/LongBeachCommunityChurch

FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH
— connecting people with Jesus —



300 North Cleveland Ave
Long Beach, MS 39560
228-864-2584
fbclb.com
youtube.com/c/fbclongbeach
facebook.com/1stbclongbeachms

SUNDAY
9:00 AM Worship
ONLINE ONLY



Be Safe During Coronavirus Outbreak
We are praying for all of you in our Long Beach community.
Currently only meeting on Sunday Morning at 10:00

COME SHARE WITH US

SUNDAY	WEDNESDAY
Bible Classes 9:00 AM Worship 10:00 AM	Group Study 5:30 PM Bible Classes 5:30 PM

200 N. Cleveland Avenue
228-863-0471

LongBeachCofC@gmail.com
Web: www.lbcoc.com
FB: Long Beach Church of Christ -



Grace Lutheran Church
Evangelical Lutheran Church in America

All in-person worship has been suspended until we receive an "all clear" notice from the authorities. Our Congregation is worshipping together electronically via ZOOM. This limits participation to only those to whom the link and password has been provided. If anyone else wishes to participate, they can send me a request at gracepastordave1@gmail.com



We Welcome You To
First United Methodist Church of Long Beach
208 Pine Street, Long Beach, MS 39560

8:30 a.m. Sanctuary Worship In-Person (reservation required @ 228-863-9619). live-streamed on Facebook.
11:00 a.m. The Well service In-Person in the Christian Life Center (reservation is required @ 228-863-9619). live-streamed on Facebook.
6:30 p.m. Worship Under the Oaks in Front of Moore Hall.
Masks are required at all services. We will have masks available.

Seeking to Love, Live, and Serve Like Jesus in Our Community