

Dear Chapelites,

## The Playbook - Sunday Schedule - Healthful Choices

Who wrote the playbook for how to do 2020 church in rural Henry County? It seems like there are two extremes: “Let-r-rip!” and “Shut-r-down!” But how do you intelligently and safely navigate between those two extremes?

There has been no playbook, but one is being written by our Administrative Council. Last night’s meeting added another chapter. We asked the Holy Spirit to guide us, and He did. We aired differing opinions and left unified. We debated whether every-other-pew and masks are still necessary for inside worship. We had concern for the ones who would not come because they did not think there would be room in the sanctuary. We also had concern for the ones who would not come because they felt unsafe if masks were not worn and distance would not be honored. We all agreed to wear masks and continue pew-distancing for now. We want everyone who comes to feel safe. I will gladly give up my seat for you, since I stand through most of the service anyway.

We acknowledged that the virus is in our school and that there have been a couple of outbreaks in our county. We know there is a possibility that it can invade our church. There are no guarantees. We also know that we want to worship, we choose to worship, we need to worship. So with masks and mitigation measures, we together will prayerfully navigate one play at a time.

We will reevaluate our position at the October council meeting and write the next chapter in the playbook. I am pleased to be associated with this group of mature Christian leaders.

We were glad that our playbook includes different worship options.

The 8:15 Drive-in service has been a great thing. Many regulars have health issues that would make it unwise for them to worship indoors. Some families have discovered that car seats are helpful worship tools. Some like to worship in God’s great outdoors. We are glad we have that option.

I had planned to end the Drive-in service at the end of September, but October seems very doable . . . and November? . . . and? . . . We will pray and see how that works out. What about next summer after the virus ends? Those plays have not been drawn up yet.

If you have friends who cannot or should not worship inside, invite them to join us.

Online worship has become a great option, too. Some worshipers have health concerns that keep them at home. Some work, travel or recreate on the weekend and worship later. Some worship in other churches and then join with us.

Invite your friends to worship with us.

I feel disconnected from those who watch online. Send me an email or a text every now and again. I want to know who is watching and how you are doing.

These two options are unexpected 2020 blessings. We would not have added them to our playbook had the virus not forced our hand. I am grateful for willing servants who make these options available.

Our council used to close with one person leading us in prayer. Since March we have ended with a physically distanced prayer circle as we have all voiced heart-felt prayers. This is one more 2020 blessing added to our playbook.

Continue to pray for the virus to end. Continue to love one another.

See you Sunday,  
Pastor Brad

P.S.

### Sunday Schedule

#### Option 1: Drive-in/Outside Worship. (8:15 am)

Our platform is near the propane tank. Park in that area, and worship in your car. Or worship on the lawn with a blanket or a bag chair and an FM radio. Tune your FM radio to 90.5. Our broadcast range is limited, so you need to be on the church property to hear.

#### Option 2: Inside Worship. (10:30 am)

Please observe physically distant seating. While we have overflow options, they have not been used. . .yet.

While no nursery will be available, parents with small children can stay with them in the family room. The worship service will be on the TV there.

Masks are required (with exceptions.) Masks are available at the door.

At 10:30, you can sit in the church yard or in your car and listen on the radio - FM 90.5.

#### Option 3: Worship online Live or Later.

We will Live Stream the service on YouTube at 10:30 am. Liberty Chapel's YouTube channel is <https://www.youtube.com/c/libertychapelc>

You can watch the service on your computer or mobile device live. The service will remain on YouTube so you can watch it later. If the live stream does not work, the service will be uploaded soon after church, and you can watch later.

#### Sunday School (9:15 am)

About half our classes have changed spaces. A map in the welcome center and signs on the doors will direct you. Or just ask.

Masks are required (with exceptions.) Masks are available at the door.

Children, sixth grade and younger, must be escorted to and picked up from their classes by a parent or the adult who brought them. If you need assistance, please let someone know.

Nursery will be provided for the Sunday School hour only. Parents and adults who bring children will take turns watching the children while other parents go to class.

We will not receive an offering during Sunday School.

The Explorers Class taught by Joe Gillen is meeting in Terry Hoffman's building with fresh air and physical distancing. If you are concerned about meeting in the classrooms, you are welcome to join them.

## Healthful Choices and Risk Mitigation

If you or someone in your household has a fever, or if you are not feeling well, please do not come to inside worship or Sunday School. Our ability to meet in person depends on our ability to trust one another.

We are only as safe as what any one of us does. If you go to a party, a social gathering, or a vacation, it is like we are all going with you. Please stay away from risky situations outside of church and observe proper mitigation precautions.

Choose the option that is best for you and your family. If you are in a higher risk category, you may need to worship outside or at home. . .but continue to worship.