

**Dear Chapelites,**

**No School! - Advent/Christmas Events - Mission Opportunities - Sunday Schedule  
- Healthful Choices - Cancellation Policy**

**No School!**

Buried under two inches of snow, wiser minds prevailed, and school was cancelled for today. That didn't keep me from opening:

"Back in my day, we would have had school in this weather." That part was true.



My daughter added, "Because you walked. But why did you have bare feet? Why didn't you have shoes? Why didn't you have socks?"

I told her they weren't invented yet. That part is decidedly not true.

But I started to think, what kinds of 2020 memories will our children tell their grandchildren. Imagine with me, a snowy Sunday morning in 2080.

"Back in 2020, when it snowed like this, we had church outside. I don't remember the preacher's name, but he preached in his bare feet." My great-grandchildren will ask, "Why weren't there any church buildings? and "Weren't flip flops invented yet?" and "What kinds of dinosaurs did you ride to church?"

Back to 2020. "I'm dreaming of a white Christmas"

Dreaming for our outdoor Christmas Eve service, two inches of snow, 30-degree weather, and low winds would be perfect. Our candlelight would gleam beautifully on the crest of the new fallen snow.

Whatever the weather, whether inside or outside, I look forward to proclaiming the good news: Jesus Christ has come to a dark world. That was true in 1960. It is still true in 2020. It will still be true in 2080.

Continue to care for one another. Pray for people in our church family and community with Covid and other problems. Pray for an end of this plague.

See you Sunday,  
Pastor Brad

p.s.

### **Advent Candles**

A family or a group of friends will light our Advent candles at the beginning of our inside and outside services. If you would like to do that, please contact me right away. I am developing that schedule.

### **No Christmas Dinner**

Our traditional Christmas Dinner will not happen this year.

### **Children's Program**

The Children's Program will be shown December 13 during our 10:30 service. This prerecorded segment will be part of our YouTube worship that day. Typically, our sanctuary is packed for that service. We hope it will be packed again in 2021, but this year due to health concerns, you will not need to be present to watch it. (We will have our "normal" 8:15 worship service outside.)

### **Cantata**

The Christmas Cantata will be performed December 20 during our 10:30 worship service. You will be able to watch it in person or you can watch it live or later on YouTube. We plan to resume our Cantata sanctuary packing in 2021, but this year due to health concerns, you will be able to watch at home. ("Normal" drive-in worship at 8:15.)

### **Christmas Eve**

There will be three Christmas Eve services this year.

**Indoor Christmas Eve services at 5:00 and 8:00** will feature Christmas carols and lighting real candles. We will limit sanctuary seating to 80 for each service. In order to sign up for your reservation, please call or email the office between December 14-21.

In the past, we have had around 200 for our single Christmas service. Currently, our inside worship averages around 65. We don't know what to expect on Christmas Eve, so our sanctuary may not be filled for either service. If you choose not to reserve a place but decide at the last minute to attend, please come. You may or may not have a seat in the sanctuary. We will have overflow seating available.

**Outdoor Christmas Eve service will be at 6:30.** It will also feature Christmas carols. We may have battery-operated candles. I will let you know details as we figure them out.

**Christmas Eve online:** One of our indoor services will be live streamed so you can worship live or later. I will let you know which one after a decision is made available.

## **Mission Opportunities**

December 6, we will receive an offering to help Pastor Rabrun to provide Christmas gifts to Haitian children.

“We Care”—gifts of clothing and toys for area families. A garland immediately inside the back door has tags with shopping lists for families. If you do not want to go inside, let Kara or me know, and we will get tags to you. Bring your gifts to the church by December 13.

Our Christmas Eve offering will go to Life Wise Academy. This is a program that provides Bible education to school students during the school day. We hope this will be available in Liberty Center beginning Fall 2021.

## **Sunday Schedule**

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

#### **Outside Worship**

Yes, we still have Drive-in Worship. Worship in your car or outside on a lawn chair with your parka. Tune your FM radio to 90.5. Our broadcast range is limited, so you need to be on the church property to hear. Our Christmas Eve drive-in service will be at 6:30. Invite your friends.

I have no plans to end this service, but “Plan B” resides in the back of my mind. I don’t know if the weather will temporarily force me indoors. If it does, you can remain in your cars. You will still be able to hear. You can even leave your windows down and visit.

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

Please observe physically distant seating and wear masks. The family room is available for parents with small children. The TV there will show the service. While we have overflow options, they have not been used . . . yet. You can worship outside in your car—FM 90.5.

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

The service is live streamed 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)**

Children, sixth grade and younger, must be escorted to and picked up from their classes by a parent or the adult who brought them. Currently, there is no nursery, but if you need this service, please talk with Pastor Brad. Masks are a healthy choice. The Explorers Class meets in Terry Hoffman’s building.

**Healthful Choices**

If you or someone in your household has a fever or other Covid symptoms, please do not come to inside worship or Sunday School. Our ability to meet in person depends on our ability to trust one another. Choose the option that is best for you and your family but continue to worship.

**Cancellation Policy**

All Sunday Worship Services will be cancelled when the Henry County Sheriff declares a Level 3 Snow Emergency. All Church meetings shall be cancelled when a Level 3 Snow Emergency is declared. (PLEASE NOTE: If the snow emergency is lifted before the meeting time, the meeting may be held at the discretion of the committee chair.) All Worship Service cancellations will be announced on Facebook and broadcast on WNDH 103.1 FM radio. Call the church at 419-533-2881, and listen to the recorded cancellation message. Please use your discretion. If you think that it is not safe for you to come to church, please stay home. You can worship on line.

- December 1, 2020