

**Dear Chapelites,**

**Positive Covid Test - Face Coverings Required - Cantata Cancelled - Sunday Schedule - The Light Still Shines**

**Positive Covid Test**

Yesterday, Pastor Phil tested positive for Covid 19 and influenza. He believes he contracted it on Thanksgiving from a family member. Symptoms appeared Monday evening. He told me that he has always tried to be careful. Pray for him—for mild symptoms and for a speedy recovery.



When he called me with the news, I asked him to recount his Sunday morning. He wore his mask all morning. While he talked with several people, he did not believe that he had “close contact” with anyone. The CDC defines close contact as 15 minutes within 6 feet. If you are concerned about your contact with him, you should take appropriate precautions. As a church, we do not believe we need to take further precautions. We will continue to clean and sanitize and to provide hand sanitizer and face masks.

**Face Coverings Required**

A special board meeting last evening (Wednesday) to talk about next steps. A good discussion focused on whether face coverings should be required or “strongly encouraged.” Topics included: We wear masks in other places. We have personal rights, but we also have personal duties. Without masks, singing spreads droplets further than talking. Who would enforce this? What if someone refuses to wear a mask? We want all to feel welcome. Sunday School Classes. This is temporary. We mask not because of government mandates, but because of love for one another. After this discussion, the board adopted this policy:

“We require masks be worn inside the church at all times (unless leading the worship service) until further notice.” Masks means face coverings for nose and mouth.

Masks need to be worn throughout the worship service and during Sunday School classes. Since school age children are accustomed to wearing masks at school, they can wear them at church. Pre-school children would not be required to mask. Persons with medical conditions that prevent them from wearing masks would not be required to mask. It was noted that staff members do not need to mask when they are working alone.

We know that some will not like this policy. We hope through prayer and understanding, that all will accept this policy.

## **Cantata Canceled**

Last night, the choir decided that there is no way they can sing together six feet apart, so this year's cantata is canceled. We will have a "normal" worship service that day—December 20.

## **Sunday Schedule**

**Option 1: Drive-in/Outside Worship. (8:15 am)** - Come to the parking lot, and tune to FM 90.5.

**Option 2: Inside Worship. (10:30 am)** - Please observe physically distant seating and wear face coverings.

**Option 3: Worship online.** The service is live streamed at 10:30 am. You can watch it live or later. Liberty Chapel's YouTube channel is <https://www.youtube.com/c/libertychapelc>

## **Sunday School. (9:15)**

### **The Light Still Shines**

This morning, the sun still came up. Not only that, today's sunrise was especially beautiful! Our Creator is an amazing artist! The Advent/Christmas season is all about the light of God coming into a dark world. "The true light, which gives light to everyone, was coming into the world. . . .The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness has not overcome it." (John 1:9 & 1:5 ESV) If ever we needed Jesus, we need him to come in 2020 . . . and he will!

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

- December 3, 2020