

Greetings, Guests and Church Family!

September 26, 2020

Here are some important updates on our ever-evolving, COVID-19-era worship service plans for the New Market Church:

1. Beginning October 3: Three Worship Services. Yes, you read that correctly! Beginning October 3, and until the weather forces us to finally cancel the outdoor worship service at SVAE, we will be holding three worship services each Sabbath.

2. When and Where Will the Three Services Meet? Here's the schedule, again beginning October 3:

- **9:00 AM** – First Worship Service Indoors in the Church Sanctuary
- **10:15 AM** – Sabbath School at various locations (check with your teacher) both online and in-person
- **11:30 AM** – Two Simultaneous, Separate Worship Services: One Indoors at the Church Sanctuary, and One Outdoors at SVAE (Note: The preacher and sermon will NOT be the same at these two services.)

Just to be clear: The 11:30 AM worship services will occur at the SAME TIME in TWO DIFFERENT locations.

You are welcome to attend any of these three services!

Health Note: Don't forget that masks, social distancing, and other safety protocols must be observed at any indoor worship service. (Please see video on the top of the home page of www.newmarketadventist.org for more information.)

Health Note #2: If you are wanting to attend an indoor service, but have conditions that may make you more susceptible to health issues, please consider attending the 9:00 AM worship service option. That service will have the added benefit of not having already had large numbers of people present in the sanctuary that day.

3. Why three services? Three reasons.

First, as long as the governor's Phase 3 requirements remain, worshipping in our sanctuary will require two services, as max attendance per service is capped too low for one service to hold all of us.

Second, we want to preserve the outdoor worship option as long as we can, as we know there are many members who are not yet comfortable worshipping indoors.

Third, when the time comes for the outdoor service to go away due to the weather, we unfortunately cannot simply snap our fingers and start a second service inside the church. (Imagine canceling the outdoor service on a Friday night due to sudden weather changes, and then trying to have an indoor service—a service requiring very different preparation, worship elements, A/V plans, staffing, etc.— less than 24 hours later. Experience has shown this is not wise to attempt!)

Consequently, we want to get a head start, so that when the weather says “no more!”, we’re ready to go indoors, with two well-planned services, at a moment’s notice.

4. Live Stream Service Time. Beginning October 3, 2020, the 11:30 AM indoor worship service in the sanctuary will become the live stream service, as well. (Note: Announcements will begin being live streamed at 11:25 AM.)

5. Children’s Sabbath School Options Beginning October 3. All children's Sabbath School classes (with one exception, noted shortly) will be meeting in the Children's Sabbath School Wing. Kindergarten, however, will continue to meet outdoors at the SVA ballfield pavilion (note: If the weather turns bad, Kindergarten will meet in the Sabbath School wing along with the other children's classes - please see <https://www.newmarketadventist.org/zoom-online-meeting-instructions-invitations-and-more/> for more details). NOTE: **COVID-19 safety protocols will be in effect, including mandatory mask wearing for all in-door attendees 10 years old and older, social distancing, etc.**

6. Pre-Recorded Children’s Sabbath Schools Still Available Online!

- For Mrs. Harley and Friends (for Primary and Juniors), please go to: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=O0pRAK2eQDs&list=PLFli6iVR2uEi7lHaZlJE CqwoSamLbRMRP>
- For Mrs. Henline’s Sabbath School (for Cradle Roll and Kindergarten), please go to: <https://www.youtube.com/playlist?list=PLFli6iVR2uEgVASA8twJoKMTbzJYJPUv4>

7. Adult Sabbath School Class Options Beginning October 3 are Now Finalized. The Sabbath School Council is offering the following Adult Sabbath School Class locations on Sabbath mornings:

- General Adult SS Class: Sanctuary

- Women's SS Class: Fellowship Hall
- General SS Class: Fellowship Hall Annex
- One English-Speaking Online Adult SS Class via Zoom
- Spanish-speaking online Sabbath School classes also available (see <https://www.newmarketadventist.org/zoom-online-meeting-instructions-invitations-and-more/> for more details as October 3 draws nearer)

8. IMPORTANT NOTE ON SANCTUARY SANITIZATION. This is simple, really, but could prove confusing if you don't know about it ahead of time:

- During the two 15-minute breaks in the Sabbath AM sanctuary schedule, the pews will need to be sanitized with our fogger machine. This is in keeping with the Virginia governor's order, which requires sanitation measures in between occupancies.
- The sanitization process is not a difficult one, and goes fairly speedily. However, if you are in the sanctuary, say, for first service, and that service ends, and you are planning on attending the Sabbath School class that meets in the sanctuary and thus plan to stay in the room, you may be asked to move to other portions of the sanctuary so that the deacons can safely disinfect the pews, etc.
- The pews may be ever so slightly and briefly damp after being fogged. While you should not stand in the mist created by the fogger (that's why we will ask you to move away), sitting or touching the settled fog presents no health threat, including to children.
- If a service or Sabbath School finishes in the sanctuary, and you do not need to stay in the sanctuary for a future event, please be aware of fogging measures and make appropriate space for the deacons to do their work.

9. Regarding the Outdoor Service. Three notes on this service:

- **First**, please remember that SVA dorm students are considered “family” according to the Virginia governor’s order, and are therefore not required to socially distance from each other.
- **Second**, we are committed to making sure there will always be plenty of space to socially distance at the outdoor service! Feel free to move your chair or blanket as needed to meet your distancing desires.
- **Third**, just a reminder that masks are encouraged (though not required) at the outdoor service.

10. Weather Notifications. Have you signed up yet for our church texting service? If not, please do so in order to get important announcements, including outdoor worship

service cancellation notices due to inclement weather. Sign up by texting "church" to 540-340-5775.

11. Questions? Don't hesitate to contact the church office at 540-740-8550 or via email at nmchurch@shentel.net. And as always, our website, www.newmarketadventist.org will have the latest information on worship services, Sabbath Schools, etc.

Hope to see you soon! Have a good week and a good Sabbath!

Pastor Shane

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