

What to Do...What to Do

In my Wednesday Chat #5 last week, I laid out three options I was considering on how to proceed with our Sunday morning worship going forward into the new year, working on a “new year, new way: theme. Option A was to remain in a virtual means only, but for me, that wasn’t much of an option. Option B was to **temporarily** go with one service at 9:00 a.m, and I was leaning that direction. Option C was to have our normal Sunday morning schedule of two services at 8:00 and 10:00, taking all the necessary precautions, including cleaning the pews in between the services. I then asked three of our congregational leaders for their thoughts on these options This past Sunday morning, I mentioned my decision to go with Option B until Easter. Yesterday morning (Monday), I found out that someone volunteered to clean the pews of our sanctuary in between services IF we went with our normal Sunday morning schedule—a required stipulation for Option C. That was an important piece of information I did not have prior to my remarks on Sunday morning that totally changed my thinking. I will admit my decision for Option B was too hasty—a mistake on my part for which I ask for your forgiveness.

Armed with new information, and again after talking to key individuals, **we will resume in person worship this coming Sunday, January 3rd, with two (2) services at 8:00 a.m. and 10:00 a.m. rather than upset the apple cart with one service at 9:00.** I do not anticipate large crowds at either service, so there should be no issue keeping ourselves properly distanced. (That was an additional factor that helped change my mind.) Past requirements are still in place—antiseptic lotion as you come into the building, and face coverings worn at all times—until Jackson County amends or rescinds its current health order.

Should the anticipated surge in the number of cases and hospitalizations happen this January due to holiday gatherings, we will continue to have in-person service. That is my promise to you. If the surge does happen, I will be encouraging you, maybe imploring you, to stay home and join us online on our Facebook page (www.facebook.com/llcumc) rather than come in person. Even now, if you do not feel safe getting out because of your particular circumstances, then please stay home. **Going forward, our virtual ministry will continue to be a priority even with in-person worship.** In other words, I do not consider our online worship service to be second class. It is every bit as important and effective as in person attendance, so please let us know you are watching with a notification or comment on Facebook. For those who do attend the 10:00 service in January, there will be a minor change in the service to facilitate, and eventually improve, our live stream to those who wish to stay home.

We will have a joint adult Sunday school class at 9:00 a.m. this Sunday to talk about meeting separately as two classes in the new year.

With the new video camera installed, and a second laptop to run its software on the way, we need two more individuals to join our A/V team for the 10:00 service. Specifically, we need one person to work the camera and zoom when appropriate, and another person to work the worship slides, each Sunday. Please let Mike Garland know if you can help 1-2 Sundays a month starting in February, and we will train you during the month of January.

Thank you for your patience as we navigate our way out of the darkness that is the coronavirus pandemic and into the new year that is coming on Friday.

Yours in Christ our Lord,

Pastor Tom



On Going: Les Case, Wade Davis, Roger Grable, Richard Fuerst, Winnie Fuerst, Harvey Geary, Michael Hatfield, Linda Koleiny, Shane Miley, Nancy Rowe, all the families who have lost loved ones or are sick from the Covid Virus

Depression and Mental Health: Robby Sherrod

Strength and Healing: Gene Crist, Graves family, Mike McMillin, Kirk Morehead and family,

DJ Petty, Dennis Rogers, Andrew White, Luke, Emma, Leih

Missions: Kenyan G-Marc Project, Chics for Chicks, Hillcrest Transitional Housing, Harvester's Food Bank, Lazarus Ministries, Tarsney Lake Families, Congregation de Mellier, Heart and Soul Children's Learning Center

Please contact the office to update or add prayer requests



2020 Missions Giving Tree to benefit Lazarus Ministries

We are collecting for men, women, and children:

- New socks and new underwear



- Gently used (or new) warm winter coats



- Monetary donations to fund the Lazarus meal program



DONATED ITEMS may be dropped off at the church office on Monday - Thursday mornings throughout December (816-578-4544). Checks may be mailed to the church. Please make payable to LLCUMC with "Lazarus Ministries" notated in the memo. **THANK YOU!**



Just wanted to thank everyone for all your dedication this year to our Tarsney Lake Community Mission. This Christmas we were able to give 35.00 gift cards to 5 of the kids and a wonderful ham dinner to 5 families in need. It has been a tricky year for getting together with families out there, but we were still able to lend a hand and give wonderful gestures of kindness to so many out there that need our giving hearts.

Thank you for giving your gifts, time and kindness to a mission that is needed and appreciated by many.

Sincerely,

Tonia



January 2021

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
27	28	29	30	31	1 Happy New Year!	2
3 Services 8:00 & 10:00 am	4	5	6	7	8	9
10 Services 8:00 & 10:00 am	11	12	13	14	15	16
17 Services 8:00 & 10:00 am	18	19	20	21	22	23
24 Services 8:00 & 10:00 am	25	26 Church Council Meeting 7:00	27	28	29	30
31 Services 8:00 & 10:00 am						