MEADOWLANDS BAPTIST CHURCH 11 DECEMBER 2020 NEWSLETTER

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ON THIS DAY EARTH SHALL RING

WRITTEN BY KEVIN WILLIAMS

Have you been disappointed lately? Maybe its because your plans to be with family and friends have been canceled. Maybe you're discouraged by the continual onslaught of bad news. Maybe you're just weary with COVID fatigue. Or maybe you're feeling anxious about all the unknown. The burdens of this life don't really put us in the mood to sing.

But as God's people, we have every reason to "sing a new song to the Lord for He has done marvelous things" (Psalm 98:1). If you don't feel like singing praises to God, then spend some time in His Word. When the word of Christ fills you, it will lead to "singing with grace in your heart to the Lord" (Col 3:16). How would your attitude change if you turned off the TV, closed your internet browser, put away your phone, and opened your Bible? In God's Word you will find what is true, honorable, just, pure, lovely, commendable, excellent, and praiseworthy (Phil 4:8). When you meditate on these things and put them into practice, God's presence will fill you with peace (Phil 4:9).

With a heart full of praise, I invite you to join the church family to sing of our Saviour's birth this Sunday morning. Our musicians have been working diligently to minister God's truth in a special time Christmas worship called "On This Day Earth Shall Ring." If you can't come at 9:30 or 11:00, I hope the livestream will help you to praise the Lord from your home.

UPDATE ON GOVERNMENT RESTRICTIONS FOR THIS SUNDAY:

On Tuesday, our provincial authorities issued additional restrictions that affect many aspects of our lives. The main impact on our church gatherings is a limitation of 15% capacity. This will allow 60 people in the auditorium (capacity of 400) and 105 in the gymnasium (capacity of 700). For this Sunday, the auditorium will be limited to 45 worshippers (+ 15 musicians) per service. Everyone else will need to go to the gym and watch the livestream. We will sing in the gym this Sunday, so if you prefer to avoid singing, you will need to watch from home.

Although these further restrictions cause more inconvenience, we are thankful that we can simultaneously gather for worship and submit to our governing authorities for the Lord's sake (1 Pet 2:13). We praise the Lord for a spacious building that allows us various options that many churches do not have.

On Sunday evening at 6:00 we will gather to discuss our current missionary partnerships and some proposals from our pastors and deacons.

Livestream will be available for the service but not the Q & A to follow. Please email or call if you have questions and are unable to be present on Sunday night.



GIVING

E-transfer is available. From your bank's website, select the e-transfer feature. The email address to transfer to is <u>donations@meadowlandsbaptist.com</u>. Your donation will be automatically accepted and you will receive a confirmation of the transfer.



TEENS AT MEADOWLANDS

A gift bag for teens is available for pick-up in the church foyer from Sunday until December 18. Inside each bag is information for participation in an online youth activity.



On Wednesday there will be no Kids 4 Truth. At 7 pm, all ages are welcome to come to hear Eric Knutson (university student training for pastoral ministry) bring our Bible message followed by a time of prayer.

ON THIS DAY EARTH SHALL RING



Sunday Dec 13 9:30 or 11 am

There will be two live worship services with limited seating in auditorium. Livestream will be available in the gym or in home. A copy of the program is available in print form at the church or as a pdf for you to view on your own device. Each person who would like to sing along will need a copy to participate.

