



Beltsville Seventh-day Adventist Church Response to the Coronavirus COVID-19 Updated September 1, 2020

Current Statistics

Worldwide Stats:

Number of Confirmed Cases: 25,671,838 Number of Deaths: 855,651

US Stats:

Number of Confirmed Cases: 6,212,708 Number of Deaths: 187,793

Maryland Stats:

Number of Confirmed Cases: 108,249 Number of Deaths: 3,755
Montgomery County Cases: 20,006 Prince George's Cases: 26,215

Washington, DC Stats:

Number of Confirmed Cases: 13,959 Number of Deaths: 607

Current Statistics: <https://www.worldometers.info/coronavirus>

Beltsville Seventh-day Adventist Church Updated Response

The Beltsville Seventh-day Adventist Church continues to adhere to the current recommendations and orders of the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), the State of Maryland, Washington, DC, and the Potomac Conference Corporation of Seventh-day Adventists.

Beltsville Seventh-day Adventist Church elders voted at a Church-wide Elders Meeting held on Thursday, August 27, 2020 that we will continue not to offer public gatherings in any of our campus facilities and no groups over ten people indoors until January 16, 2021. Any indoor meetings held with less than ten people will follow the CDC recommendations of healthy best practices and social distancing. Until further notice, all church-led activities exceeding ten people will be conducted remotely (i.e. via online streaming, Zoom, phone calls, etc) or outdoors.

The Beltsville Seventh-day Adventist Church is also requiring all of its church rentals (weddings, funerals, church worship services, etc) to follow the same guidelines.

Though we will not be together as a church family in a large, public gathering until the new year, Beltsville Seventh-day Adventist Church continues to be very active- providing a number of key services and ministries to serve the membership and community.

What We Are Doing

1. Church Services Online

We are continuing to offer an online Sabbath worship experience each Saturday. This service is broadcast on Saturday mornings at 11:00 AM EST. The online worship experience can be found online at: <https://beltsville.online.church>

This Church Online Platform offers a number of features that help our church (and those that choose to join us online) stay in touch and connected:

Live Chat: People can share life experience, answer questions, and encourage each other in the real-time chat sidebar.

Live Prayer: We support people with one-on-one prayer during any worship experience—and receive requests for prayer between experiences.

Synced Viewing: The power of the Church Online Platform is the unity of shared experience. We broadcast our service as 'simulated live,' and all our viewers and chatters watch a service with a synced starting time—they discuss the message or ask questions as the worship experience and sermon is happening.

Go Anywhere: People can get the full church online experience on any tablet or mobile device.

Bible Feature: YouVersion's 1,300+ versions and 1,000+ languages is embedded into our online experience, and can reach people from different countries and backgrounds in the language of their hearts.

Giving Link: Our church already participates in online giving, this platform allows church members the opportunity to remain faithful in giving.

The church has placed a link to Beltsville Church's Online Platform on our church's website, better allowing people the opportunity to find the site. The link has also been placed on the church's Facebook page and sent it in a variety of emails.

2. Ongoing Online Campus Experience

Recognizing that there are a number of at-risk church members that will choose, for health reasons, not to return to the physical worship gathering in the new year and that we have discovered a means of connecting with people who may not be in our area, we will continue providing the online worship experience as an additional campus of Beltsville Seventh-day Adventist Church after we return to worship gatherings and the COVID-19 pandemic passes.

Churches have found a lot of success through launching online campuses. These virtual campuses offer a space for people who want to learn about and connect with a community in an online environment. It could be that they're not comfortable attending a church yet or they are physically incapable of making it to church every week. An online campus offers more than streaming services. It provides a place for people to connect with others, pray, respond, and give.

This new online campus will provide the same missional focus as Beltsville Seventh-day Adventist Church- only online. Opportunities for service, volunteering, worship, Connect Groups, evangelism and discipleship will also be provided- only through an online experience.

2. Sabbath School Classes

The Beltsville Seventh-day Adventist Church is offering a variety of Sabbath School Classes using the online meeting software Zoom. For the most part these classes are organized by Campus with Ammendale Campus Sabbath School Classes being held from 9:30-10:45 AM EST and Tech Road Sabbath School Classes being held from 12:15-1:15 PM EST. There are a number of variations and new classes are being added regularly. These classes are subject to change so please verify current classes and times. The Beltsville Adventist Church has posted the current classes on the church website at: <http://www.beltsvillesda.org/sabbathschool>

Ammendale Campus Classes from 9:30 - 10:45 AM EST

Sanctuary Class: <https://zoom.us/j/527411147>

Join by Phone: 301-715-8592. Meeting ID: 527 411 147

Practical Living Class: <https://zoom.us/j/396056367>

Join by Phone: 301-715-8592. Meeting ID: 396 056 367

Joe Thomas Class: <https://zoom.us/j/857876486>

Join by Phone: 301-715-8592. Meeting ID: 857 876 486

Ammendale Campus Classes from 10:00 - 11:00 AM EST

Youth Class: Check with Pastor Shari for Updated Link

Email: PastorShariLoveday@gmail.com

Earliteen Class: Check with Pastor Shari for Updated Link

Email: PastorShariLoveday@gmail.com

Ammendale Campus Classes from 12:00 - 1:00 AM PST

Junior/Primary Class: Check with Pastor Shari for Updated Link

Email: PastorShariLoveday@gmail.com

Ammendale Campus Classes from 1:00 - 2:00 PM EST

Destination Sabbath School: <https://zoom.us/j/218068928>

Join by Phone: 301-715-8592. Meeting ID: 218 068 928

Tech Road Campus Classes from 12:15 - 1:15 PM EST

Open Circle Bible Study Class: <https://zoom.us/j/107194462>

Join by Phone: 301-715-8592. Meeting ID: 107 194 462

Bible Study Class (Andrea Madding): <https://zoom.us/j/636119342>

Join by Phone: 301-715-8592. Meeting ID: 636 119 342

Young Adult Class: <https://nadadventist.zoom.us/j/95367080008>

Join by Phone: 301-715-8592. Meeting ID: 953 6708 0008

Youth Class: Check with Pastor Shari for Updated Link

Email: PastorShariLoveday@gmail.com

Beltsville Kids Praise from 12:15 - 1:00 PST

An online worship experience for young children: <https://beltsville.online.church>

Other Children's Sabbath School Resources are available on the church website at: <http://www.beltsvillesda.org/children>

3. Connect Groups

The Beltsville Seventh-day Adventist Church small group ministry will launch its Fall semester the week of October 18, 2020 with a variety of options for church members to choose from. Most all groups will be offered via Zoom with a few outdoor experiences.

4. Other Classes & Small Groups

The Beltsville Seventh-day Adventist Church is offering a variety of other classes and small groups. These meetings include but are not limited to:

- ◇ Prayer Meeting
- ◇ Pathfinders meeting with their counselors online and outdoors in small groups
- ◇ Pathfinder Bible Experience
- ◇ Youth and Young Adults
- ◇ Children's Experience (such as Paint & Sip)
- ◇ Other Small Groups

5. Community Service

With an ongoing need in the community, the Beltsville Adventist Community Center remains open but by appointment only. We also continue to partner with the Prince George's County to provide additional relief effort to people in our community. Every other Friday at noon we are providing hundreds of boxes of food to families that drive through for pick up. If you would like to help serve, reach out to Pastor Sifa at: sifap@pcsd.org

6. Sabbath School Quarterlies

We are encouraging people to utilize the free, online Sabbath School Quarterlies. These quarterlies can be found online and in the Sabbath school Quarterly App. The online version can be found here: <https://www.sabbath.school>

We have physical quarterlies available to senior church members and those that are physically impaired. If you, or someone you know would like to stop by the church to pick one up, please contact the church office at 301-937-8118.

7. DC Campus Launch Moving Forward

The Launch Team of Beltsville's new campus has been meeting together online for weeks, preparing for the campus's Grand Opening early next year. Though the Grand Opening was pushed back because of COVID-19, we continue moving forward with more and more people joining the team. Currently we have 30 people that have joined the Launch Team- most all not previously associated with Beltsville Seventh-day Adventist Church. The launch Team is now beginning their informational meetings online with regular Online Interest Parties.

8. Updating Ammendale's Physical Facilities

With the church facility being mostly vacant, we are aggressively moving forward to complete most of our Growing to Serve remodel and physical plant upgrades. With the bathrooms are nearly complete, we are beginning to work on the following additional items:

- ◇ HVAC systems in the church lobby and education wing
- ◇ Remodeling the education wing classrooms
- ◇ Upgrade the sanctuary microphones, lighting, camera, computer systems, software and sound board
- ◇ Update the sanctuary platform with new LED screens, drapery, speakers and flooring
- ◇ Add new banners and signs- inside and out

9. Reaching Out

Pastors, Elders and Church Leaders from each campus are systematically reaching out to all church members and regular attenders to make sure that people are OK, offer service and prayer. If we have their contact information, we are calling them. Make sure we have your current information.

What You Can Do

1. Be Safe

First and foremost, please be safe. We encourage you to continue following the current regulations and recommendations so as to prevent yourself and others from contracting the virus.

2. Reach Out to Others

While we cannot conduct public meetings, we need to make sure our members are taken care of. Continue to call on your family, neighbors and church members to check in. Make sure they are OK. See if they have any needs and if you have the ability, help meet those needs— if you do not, try to find the services that do.

Make sure they know how to find our church online. Ask if they've been joining Beltsville Seventh-day Adventist Church's online Sabbath worship experience. If not, be sure to give them the website and offer any assistance they may need in getting online. Understand that some people are not as technology savvy and may need some assistance in getting online— please offer that help. Also, contact them minutes before the service begins to make sure they are online.

Inform them on the various Sabbath school classes that are available. If they are not aware, help them find a class and get online. Many of the online Sabbath school classes are designed after the regular classes. If they regularly attend Beltsville Seventh-day Adventist Church, help them find one they normally attend or have friends they are equaled with.

3. Look for Opportunities to Serve

Though we must follow the recommendations given us by the CDC and local authorities, it does not prevent us from continuing to be the light of the world.

Jesus said, "You are the light of the world. A town built on a hill cannot be hidden. Neither do people light a lamp and put it under a bowl. Instead they put it on its stand, and it gives light to everyone in the house. In the same way, let your light shine before others, that they may see your good deeds and glorify your Father in heaven." Matthew 5:14-16

- ◇ If you have elderly or at risk neighbors, offer to pick up their groceries.
- ◇ Donate food or time to the Beltsville Adventist Community Center.
- ◇ Be kind when you do have to leave your house. Remember, others are stressed out too.

4. Communications

The Beltsville Seventh-day Adventist Church is seeking to constantly keep its members and leaders informed. If the church doesn't have your contact information, we're unable to reach out and keep you in the know. Here are some of the ways we are sharing information and how you can assure you're getting it.

◇ Church Community Builder

The Beltsville Seventh-day Adventist Church uses the church management software, Church Community Builder (CCB) to maintain membership contact information and records. Please login and make sure your contact information (*Email, Phone Number, Home Address*) is current. If you'd rather not login, contact the church office and verify your contact information. You can login into CCB at: mychurchconnect.ccbchurch.com

◇ BombBomb

The Beltsville Seventh-day Adventist Church will often use Bombbomb to send out weekly newsletters and information. Though your contact information comes from CCB, Bombbomb is the software often used to generate the newsletters. As such, you'll want to make sure that emails sent from Bombbomb do not accidentally end up in your email junk box.

◇ Facebook/Instagram

Each campus of the Beltsville Seventh-day Adventist Church has a Facebook account that shares information relevant to the local campus and the church as a whole. If you use facebook, you will want to subscribe to these pages.

1. www.facebook.com/beltsvilleseventhdayadventistchurch/
2. www.facebook.com/techroadsda/
3. www.facebook.com/wearedccampus/
4. www.instagram.com/tech_road_youth/
5. www.instagram.com/wearedccampus/

5. Financially Support the Church

Thank you so much for your ongoing support of the mission of Beltsville Seventh-day Adventist Church. Even during this crisis, we see how God has provided us with opportunities for ongoing discipleship and serving the needs of people in the community. We still remain committed to our financial obligations- such as Beltsville Adventist School & academies, hired staff and not to mention the utilities & maintenance of the church facilities.

One of the consequences of this pandemic is the financial hardship people are experiencing. We recognize that a number of people in our church may be struggling financially through this crisis. If you need help of any kind, please reach out to your campus pastor and he/she will work to find resources to help you through this critical period.

In addition to remaining faithful in your tithes, please continue to financially support the Beltsville Seventh-day Adventist Church Local Combined Budget. This how we as a local church fulfill our mission of equipping fully engaged, missional disciples of Jesus in our community. You can give in one of two ways:

◇ Give Securely Online

Visit the Beltsville Seventh-day Adventist Church website and give securely online. This is the safest and easiest way to give. To give online, visit: www.beltsvillesda.org/give

◇ Mail It In

You can mail your check to:
Beltsville Seventh-day Adventist Church
4200 Ammendale Road
Beltsville, MD 20904