

Hello Friends,

I write to you this first week of January 2021 with so much gratefulness and thankfulness for each of you. As I reflect on this past year, and anticipate this next year, I know one thing is true: Jesus is my hope and my rock. I trust that He is yours too! I pray that you are holding fast to who He is. It seems to me that the biggest challenge of 2021 might be the unknown. There are so many questions and possible outcomes that we all are contemplating for the future. The writer of Hebrews, in chapter 11 verse 8 references the great faith of Abraham in a time of unknown future outcomes.

“By faith Abraham, when called to go to a place he would later receive as his inheritance, obeyed and went, even though he did not know where he was going.” Hebrews 11:8

What is interesting to me is that Abraham stepped out in strong faith toward the unknown. Undoubtedly, God is asking you and I to step forward into 2021. We do this with the great gift of Jesus in our understanding. May He be our great Hope towards the future, the stability in our faith, and the driver of our actions in love toward the world around us. As a church, let's continue to strive to do this together. I'm so proud of how we did in 2020. Not perfect, but always striving to take care of people. Let's commit together to stand strong, to take care of others, to love God, and move forward in great faith in 2021. I love you all very much.

Starting on **January 17, 2021**, Battle Creek Friends Church will re-open for in person church every Sunday. Services will be at 9:00 am and 11:00 am. Children's Ministry will have services during the 11:00 am hour only at this time. We will continue all of our online endeavors for those who are not comfortable, or ready yet, to attend in person. In addition, we will keep strong protocols for protecting people while they are in the building.