



INCLEMENT WEATHER POLICY

The NorthStar Church inclement weather policy prioritizes the safety of our community and is of utmost importance, especially during and after adverse weather conditions. Significant snow accumulation, ice, power outages, extreme cold or declared state of emergencies/weather warnings for Allegany County may necessitate cancelling worship, meetings, rehearsals, activities, etc. (collectively referred to as “events”) held at the church facilities or elsewhere on behalf of NorthStar Church.

Attendees are urged in the strongest terms possible to use their own discretion and judgement at all times in determining if conditions warrant attendance to the regular worship services or other church activities. Regardless of whether the church is open, members are encouraged to stay home if they feel unsafe.

Events will be cancelled using one of the following options:

Option 1: Decision of the Lead Pastor

The Lead Pastor, in consultation with at least two Board members, will make the decision as to continue to hold or cancel scheduled events. The Lead Pastor will also make the decision on whether to hold services online. Decisions for Sunday morning worship services will be made Sunday morning by 7:00 a.m. or the evening before. The decision on all other cancelled events will be made at least two (2) hours prior to the event. All decisions for cancelling events will focus on the conditions of the roads, parking areas, sidewalks, temperature, future forecast and the general safety of attendees.

Option 2: Automatic Cancellation

- A. If the Snow Emergency Plan for Allegany County is in effect at **7:00 a.m.** on Sunday morning, all Sunday services and events are automatically canceled for the day.
- B. If the Snow Emergency Plan for Allegany County is in effect two (2) hours before an event, the event(s) is automatically canceled.

NorthStar Church staff shall be responsible for informing the congregation of worship service and other event cancellations as soon as practical. At a minimum, this shall be done through updates to the official NorthStar Church website and social media channels, as well as emails to the Church’s email recipient list. Church attendees should be encouraged to check these sources when seeking specific and up-to-date information.

In all adverse weather notifications to the church community, church staff is urged to use the following (or similar) statement: “We ask that you please use your personal discretion to determine if it is safe for you to leave your home and travel to church.”