

## Smith, Christopher

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**From:** Smith, Christopher  
**Sent:** Friday, January 23, 2026 2:52 PM  
**To:** Smith, Christopher  
**Cc:** Jackson, Edward  
**Subject:** WINTER WEATHER ADVISORY

### WINTER WEATHER ADVISORY

Good Afternoon, Faith Leaders:

We are reaching out to make sure you are aware of the inclement weather expected to impact the city beginning Saturday night and continuing through Sunday and Monday. Below is a brief forecast; for the most up-to-date information, please follow Notify NYC. Please report non-emergency issues to 311, and in the event of an emergency, call 911.

Thank you, and stay warm.

Office of Mass Engagement

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**Forecast Update: For the latest updates please sign up for** Notify NYC (official emergency alerts):  
<https://a858-nycnotify.nyc.gov/notifynyc/>

*A significant winter storm is expected to impact New York City **Sunday into Monday**, bringing **widespread moderate to heavy snow**, strong winds, and dangerously cold temperatures.*

- **Snow:** Steady snow is expected to begin **early Sunday morning (around 5-6 AM)**, becoming heavy by late morning through the afternoon. **6+ inches is likely**, with **9-11 inches expected across much of the city**. A worst-case scenario could bring **up to 14-16 inches**. Snowfall rates may reach **1-2 inches per hour** during peak periods. Some sleet mixing is possible Sunday night, which may refreeze.
- **Winds:** Gusty conditions will persist through the weekend. **Sunday into early Monday** may see gusts **25-35 mph**, with **isolated gusts up to 40 mph**, increasing the risk of reduced visibility, downed tree limbs, and power outages.
- **Cold & Wind Chills:** Temperatures will remain well below freezing. **Wind chills could drop as low as -5°F**, especially Friday night into Saturday and again Monday morning, increasing the risk of frostbite and dangerous refreezing.
- **Coastal Impacts: Minor coastal flooding** is possible Sunday along **Staten Island and southern Queens**.
- **Impacts:** Expect **hazardous travel conditions**, transit disruptions, slick and icy roadways, reduced visibility, and a high likelihood of **refreeze** after snowfall ends.

A **Cold Weather Advisory** is in effect Friday through Saturday, and a **Winter Weather Watch** is in effect for Sunday. The **NYCEM Winter Weather Emergency Plan is activated**.

### COLD WEATHER & FIRE SAFETY

Practice fire safety during cold weather:

- Use space heaters with extreme caution. Keep them at least three feet away from anything that can burn.
- Plug space heaters directly into a wall outlet. Do not use extension cords or power strips.

- Turn off or unplug space heaters when leaving the room or going to sleep.
- Never use stoves or ovens to heat your home.
- Check smoke alarms and carbon monoxide detectors and replace batteries if needed.
- If you smell gas or a carbon monoxide alarm sounds, leave immediately and call 911.

More information: <http://fdnysmart.org/winter>

Additional winter preparedness tips are available at <http://nyc.gov/beready>.

Make a plan, gather supplies, and stay informed.

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## **CODE BLUE DECLARED**

Temperatures are expected to fall below freezing.

If you see anyone at risk, especially individuals living on the street, please call 311. During a Code Blue, shelter is available citywide for anyone brought in by outreach teams. Accommodations are also available for walk-ins.

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## **WHAT IS A CODE BLUE?**

A Code Blue Weather Emergency is issued when temperatures are expected to reach 32°F or below between 4:00 PM and 8:00 AM, including wind chill.

No one experiencing homelessness and seeking shelter in New York City during a Code Blue will be denied.

If you see someone out in the cold, call 311 and an outreach team will be dispatched to offer assistance.

### **Code Blue Services Include:**

- **Shelters:**  
Shelter is available system-wide for individuals reasonably believed to be homeless. Access is available through outreach teams and walk-ins.
  - **Drop-In Centers:**  
All drop-in centers operate 24 hours per day during Code Blue and will assist as many people as possible. Staff can also help arrange placement at other city facilities.
  - **Street Outreach:**  
Outreach teams proactively contact vulnerable individuals and transport them to shelter. DHS coordinates Code Blue efforts with agencies such as DSNY and NYC Parks at the borough level.
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## **NEW YORK CITY PUBLIC SCHOOLS**

At this time, there is **no change** to the New York City public school schedule.

Families should monitor official NYCPS communications and citywide alerts for updates:

- [NYC Public Schools website and messaging](#)
  - [Notify NYC alerts](#)
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## **ADDITIONAL RESOURCES**

Plow NYC (snow removal tracking):

<https://plownyc.cityofnewyork.us/plownyc/>

NYC Severe Weather:

<https://www1.nyc.gov/site/severeweather/index.page>

Notify NYC (official emergency alerts):

<https://a858-nycnotify.nyc.gov/notifynyc/>

Con Edison Outage Map:

<https://outagemap.coned.com/external/default.html>



### Winter Storm - State of Emergency/Hazardous Travel Advisory

This is an **NYC House of Worship** Alert via NYC Emergency Management to help you and your worship community and neighbors to prepare for a winter storm that is expected to affect New York City from early Sunday through Sunday night and potentially Monday. Forecast confidence is high, and conditions may include heavy snow fall up to 12", very cold temperatures, high winds, and challenging travel conditions. **This storm may significantly impact travel safety during traditional Sunday worship hours!**

We encourage you to review the information below.



### Key timing, based on the current forecast

- Saturday: Very cold conditions. Highs in the upper teens. Wind chills near or below zero at times. Temperatures are not expected to rise above freezing through next Wednesday.
- Sunday: Snow is expected to begin after midnight and before daybreak Sunday morning.
- Snow is expected to intensify during the day Sunday and continue into Sunday evening.
- Lingering snow showers are possible late Sunday night into early Monday.
- Current guidance shows a high likelihood of at least 6 inches of snow across the city.
- Heavy snow rates of 1 to 2 inches per hour are possible during peak periods.

- Snow amounts and timing may continue to shift. Continue to monitor trusted weather sources for updates.

### **Primary hazards for congregations**

- Slippery sidewalks, steps, ramps, and entryways due to heavy snow and blowing snow.
- Snow covered local roads and significantly slower travel.
- Reduced visibility during heavier snowfall and gusty winds.
- Increased risk of slips, falls, and cold exposure, especially during morning and daytime hours.

### **Actions to consider for Sunday and Monday services**

- Treat sidewalks, entrances, stairs, and ramps with salt or sand before opening, and re treat as needed.
- Prioritize accessibility routes, ramps, and handrails, and keep them clear throughout the day.
- Ask staff or volunteers to arrive early to support snow removal, monitor conditions, and assist congregants.
- Review service timing and consider offering remote or virtual options where available.
- Encourage older adults and people with mobility needs to take extra care with travel.

### **Safety reminders to share with your congregation**

- Wear warm layers and sturdy boots with good traction.
- Allow extra time for travel and move carefully on snowy or icy surfaces.
- Check on neighbors who may need assistance.
- Use heating equipment safely. Plug space heaters directly into wall outlets and never use stoves, grills, or generators indoors.
- Ensure smoke and carbon monoxide detectors are working.
- Call 311 if you see someone who appears unsheltered and exposed to freezing temperatures. Outreach teams can help connect them to shelter during Code Blue cold weather emergencies.
- Clear snow safely if you are a property owner. Shovel slowly, take breaks, and keep fire hydrants clear.
- Report heat or hot water outages to your landlord, then call 311 if the issue is not resolved.
- More winter preparedness tips are available at [nyc.gov/beready](https://nyc.gov/beready).

### **Stay informed**

- Sign up for emergency alerts by texting NotifyNYC to 692-692.
  - Visit [nyc.gov/NotifyNYC](https://nyc.gov/NotifyNYC) for updates in multiple languages, including American Sign Language, or call 311 for language assistance.
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**Crisis & Emergency Risk Communication for the  
NYC Faith Sector**

**FOR NYC:**

- Clergy
- Religious Leaders
- Executive Staff
- Board Officers
- Senior Program Staff
- Communications Staff
- Security - Ushers

**All Information is Kept  
Confidential!**



**NYC HOUSE OF WORSHIP ALERT SYSTEM**

**FREE** Emergency Alerts & Information by

• **TEXT** • **EMAIL** • **VOICE**

For Faith Community Decision Makers from:

**CONGREGATIONS**  
**FAITH- BASED NONPROFITS**  
**RELIGIOUS BODIES/NETWORKS**

In Partnership with  
NYC DOHMH, Office of Emergency Preparedness & Response  
& the NYC Faith Sector Community Preparedness Program

To register, call (212) 669-6100, or go to  
[www.howalert.org/signup](http://www.howalert.org/signup)



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