



*Daniel L. "DT" Thompson, KYGCH, 33<sup>o</sup>*  
*Most Worshipful Grand Master, MWPHG LNC*

MWGMDLT 20200401-001

01 April 2020

Memorandum for the Most Worshipful Prince Hall Grand Lodge of Free and Accepted Masons of North Carolina and Jurisdiction, Inc. and the Grand Chapter Order of the Eastern Star, Rite of Adoption for the State of North Carolina, An Affiliate of the Most Worshipful Prince Hall Grand Lodge of Free and Accepted Masons of North Carolina and Jurisdiction, Inc.

Subject: We are Our Brother's and Sister's Keeper!

As the 24<sup>th</sup> elected Most Worshipful Grand Master, I bring you greetings from the Grand East as our great jurisdiction, nation and state goes through these demanding and unprecedented times. As we experience a health pandemic that contaminates, infects and kills, we want to spread encouragement and information over fear and myths.

I want to encourage our membership to adhere to the emergency declarations ordered by Governor Roy Cooper and local mayors. To our members who are first responders and work in the medical field, thank you for your services and please be safe in your daily endeavors. To our members who work in mission essential businesses, thank you for your services and please be safe in your daily operations.

As 'social distance' is the practice of the day, that does not mean "social isolation." I am encouraging our Masonic leadership and membership to check on each other. Call a brother, call a sister, send an email, send a text. We are our brother's and sister's keeper! A call, a kind word or a short note goes a long way!

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) reports:

**KNOW HOW IT SPREADS**

- There is currently no vaccine to prevent coronavirus disease 2019 (COVID-19).
- The best way to prevent illness is to avoid being exposed to this virus.
- The virus is thought to spread mainly from person-to-person.
- Between people who are in close contact with one another (within about 6 feet),
- Through respiratory droplets produced when an infected person coughs or sneezes.
- These droplets can land in the mouths or noses of people who are nearby or possibly be inhaled into the lungs.

*MY BROTHER'S KEEPER*

Subject: We are Our Brother's and Sister's Keeper!

#### TAKE STEPS TO PROTECT YOURSELF

- Clean your hands often
- Wash your hands often with soap and water for at least 20 seconds especially after you have been in a public place, or after blowing your nose, coughing, or sneezing.
- If soap and water are not readily available, use a hand sanitizer that contains at least 60% alcohol. Cover all surfaces of your hands and rub them together until they feel dry.
- Avoid touching your eyes, nose, and mouth with unwashed hands.

#### AVOID CLOSE CONTACT

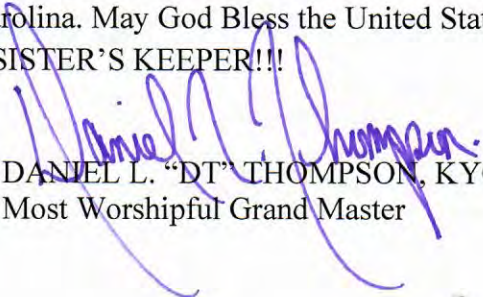
- Avoid close contact
- Avoid close contact with people who are sick
- Put distance between yourself and other people if COVID-19 is spreading in your community. This is especially important for people who are at higher risk of getting very sick.

*Source: <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/prevent-getting-sick/prevention.html>*

April 2020 will be a month like one we have never seen before. Our daily routines are severely changed. There will be no banquets, no meetings and no study sessions. Unless we are going to work (mission essential) doctor's appointments, shopping or checking on the sick, we will be home. It is recommended and suggested we engage in positive alternative activities; read a book, watch a movie or television series (binge watch), crochet/sew or write poetry.

During our morning prayer Monday, the Grand Chaplain quoted II Chronicles 7:14, which reads:  
"If my people, which are called by my name, shall humble themselves, and pray, and seek my face, and turn from their wicked ways; then will I hear from heaven, and will forgive their sin, and will heal their land."

As we go through the next thirty (30) days, let us remember the key concepts of humility and prayer. We must humble ourselves and not forget we are our brother's and sister's keeper! Our adherence to emergency declarations not only protects us, but it protects our fellow man. Let us remember our brothers, sisters and governmental leadership in our daily devotions. Let us pray they are blessed with the wisdom of Solomon, faith of Peter and patience of Job. The healing our land seeks will only come as a result of our humility and prayer. Please join me as we pray for each other, our local, state and national leadership. May the Grand Architect of the Universe continue to bless and keep each of you and your families. May God bless Prince Hall Masonry. May God Bless the State of North Carolina. May God Bless the United States of America.  
**WE ARE OUR BROTHER'S AND SISTER'S KEEPER!!!**

  
DANIEL L. "DT" THOMPSON, KYGCH, 33°  
Most Worshipful Grand Master

