

## Family and Friends of the Greater Little Zion Baptist Church

As of the current date June 15, 2020, we have witnessed the modest transition of the Northern Virginia community into what Governor Northam describes as phase two, commencing at a 50% capacity for social gatherings while still practicing the guidelines of CDC (Centers for Disease Control) of (6ft) social distancing and the wearing of a mask at minimal. According to multiple reports by the State of Virginia's health professionals, Virginia is moving in the right direction regarding the reduction in new COVID-19 cases. As citizens of the Commonwealth, we will continue to strive in complete compliance and exercise faith in our science research community until a vaccine is discovered and approved to compact this illness.

However, although reports are providing much needed inspiration and hope that slowly our Commonwealth is marching toward even a new normality, I am not yet convinced that a return to full activity and worship at Greater Little Zion Baptist Church is in order. Several reasons can substantiate my position. First, there is still much needed preparation in our church facility for compliance in order to begin reentering for worship or activities. Second, I am convinced that many within the membership still harness a great deal of fear for justifiable reasons. Third, most critical, I believe we need to wait until a cure is at least discovered, or that the data for COVID-19 has shown a significant reduction in the virus contagiousness and poses a less threat even to the vulnerable of our community. I do pray that your understanding of this rationale will be affirming until such a time that decisions can be made for reentering.

Meanwhile, we will continue to provide virtual connection to the congregation for ministry activities. We have invested in increasing our technology capabilities in order to better serve our church community. We will continue our previously scheduled outreach to name a few:

Wednesday evening prayer meeting - 6 p.m.

Wednesday evening Bible Study - 7:30 p.m.

Saturday Youth Sunday School - 9 a.m.

Sunday Adult Sunday School - 8:30 a.m.

Sunday Worship Service - 10 a.m.

Please note that there are several other activities via ZOOM that will be announced during the month as well. We are also excited that our Children's Church will soon be online for children's participation.

It has merely been my attempt to update our congregation regarding our current status and the future reentering of Greater Little Zion Baptist Church. I hope this information is enlightening and assuring that we are patiently waiting before reentering in the best interest of the Church family.

In His Service,

Rev. Dr. James T. Murphy, Jr., Pastor