


James L. Davis, Servant Bishop

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MEMORANDUM

TO: **Second Episcopal District Clergy and Congregations**

FROM: 
James Levert Davis, Servant Bishop

DATE: March 3, 2020

SUBJECT: **Church Preparation and Response to Communicable Disease
Outbreak including Coronavirus**

This Memorandum is being sent to you as a follow-up to an Email from Rev. Dr. Jeffery Cooper, General Secretary/CIO, African Methodist (AME) Church. Dr. Cooper issued **Coronavirus and Influenza Recommendations** citing ways to respond to the Coronavirus and other communicable diseases; urging those who are responsible for the safety of our churches and members to take precautionary measures to decrease the spread of Coronavirus and other communicable diseases.

Based on Dr. Cooper's email, **We recommend that you adhere to the following precautionary measures:**

1. Click on the following link [Churches_response_to_pandemics.pdf](#) to view and share a comprehensive article regarding **"Church Preparation and Response to Potential Pandemics,"** such as the Coronavirus and Influenza, from Rev. Miriam J. Burnett, MD, MDiv., MPH, Medical Director, AME Church International Health Commission President.
2. Utilize the prefilled communion packs (cup & wafer) for minimal handling and disposal.
3. Local churches - purchase sanitation stations with Purell sanitizers for use by congregants
4. Encourage members to cease greeting with handshakes, hugs, fist bumps, etc.

Additionally, we are approaching our Annual Conference season. We are instructing all host pastors and host committees to provide multiple sanitation stations with Purell sanitizers for easy access in central locations. We will take all precautions to ensure as much as lies within us possible to decrease the spread in efforts to assure the well-being of the people.

Lastly, but certainly not least, let us pray! Pray that God will lift this plague from His people all around the nation and the world. Ultimately, it is in His hands and within His will. *"If my people who are called by my name, will humble themselves and pray, I will hear from heaven, forgive their sins and heal their land."* (2 Chronicles 7:14). **IT'S PRAYER TIME!**

SECOND EPISCOPAL DISTRICT OF THE AFRICAN METHODIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH

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