

Sisters and Brothers of the Order of The Eastern Star, I pray that this finds you and yours in good health.

To restate the obvious, these are trying times. These are “times” such that I have never imagined to happen during my lifetime. Yet, here they are.

We will survive!

To survive and perhaps even flourish we must interact with Family. Not only immediate Family, but our Masonic Family. The Order of The Eastern Star is Family!

Physical isolation is paramount in defeating the Covid-19 virus, but that physical isolation only makes social interaction even more important! Talk to your sisters and brothers. Find out what they are doing! Find out what brought them pleasure today or this week! If they had misfortunes, offer sympathy and, if possible, aid. Tell your sisters and brothers what you are doing. In my case, that would probably make them laugh! And laughter is important! It is a part of “looking on the bright side”. We must remain optimistic!

My Sisters and Brothers that have posted messages before me have covered varied and valuable methods coping with the current situation. Among them are: Keep busy, find something you like to do that is helpful to yourself and others. Stay informed. Heed the directives of our leaders, but know that you are NOT alone. Talk to your sisters and brother (far and near) because physical distancing/isolation does not equate to social distancing/isolation. And when you talk to them, let them know you are doing so because you care and WANT to help.

Look for the “silver lining”.

We are fortunate to have among our membership, individuals that are very good at utilizing the various methods of communication. If you are having difficulty with communication, a phone call to a sister or brother could result in a rapid solution to your problem. Our sisters and brothers have a lot in common with Henry Ford, who said, “I have invented nothing. I simply assembled into a car the discoveries of other men.” Our members, though they did not invent the various technologies, are very good at assembling those technologies and making them available for our use!

Finally, my sisters and brothers, trust in God. You have only to watch the sun rise to know that new opportunities for happiness, joy, brotherhood and progress await us!

Sincerely, your brother,

Robert ‘Bob’ Bradshaw
Grand Sentinel

