

My Sisters and Brothers,

In these unusual and challenging times of the pandemic, I would like to share this quote with you: "When one door of happiness closes, another opens, but often we look so long at the closed door that we do not see the one that has been opened for us." --Helen Keller.

My Sisters and Brothers, let us not look too long at the closed door and miss the opportunity of the open door that can show us how to look with fresh eyes and appreciation for what we have taking for granted. We miss seeing each other; we miss hugs; we miss smiles; we miss comforting Ritual; we miss having carry-in dinners; we miss the fellowship—we miss Eastern Star! When we can *safely* begin again let's fill our Chapter Rooms, let's be kind and loving, let's return to the Eastern Star of old and begin anew. When it is safe, my friends, we will have a splendid opportunity to make it happen!

In friendship and love,
Marianne Shenefelt
Most Worthy Grand Matron