

Dear Sisters and Brothers,

Happy Holidays to all my Eastern Star friends! Hope all is well with you all, and that you are enjoying this special time of year with friends and family!

Although 2020 has not been the best year ever, our beautiful Order is still intact and thriving! As we turn our thoughts to the coming year, we hope that this ugly virus will come to its end, and our lives can get back to “normal” (whatever that may be).

I have heard it said that we are all in the “same boat” as far as COVID-19 is concerned. However, because we are all human, there are different degrees of “boat” (hunger, homelessness, poverty, etc.). If I could have one wish, it would be that every person who is not as fortunate as I am (i.e., good friends, great family, our Order, etc.) will be able to make it through this very trying time and be able to regain their dignity and be able to thrive in a world where COVID no longer exists. I also hope that the level of government interference in our lives will lessen as the threat to our health is slowly resolved!

May all our collective dreams of a better future be realized, and love guide our hearts to a happier and stronger future!

I leave you with “Everything I need to know, I learned from Noah’s Ark”

- Don’t miss the boat
- Remember that we are all in the same boat
- Plan ahead. It wasn’t raining when Noah built the Ark.
- Stay fit. When you’re 60 years old, someone may ask you to do something really big.
- Don’t listen to critics; just get on with the job that needs to be done.
- Build your future on high ground.
- For safety’s sake, travel in pairs.
- Speed isn’t always an advantage. The snails were on board with the cheetahs.
- When you’re stressed, float awhile.
- Remember, the Ark was built by amateurs; the Titanic by professionals.
(Noah has a friend in high places)
- No matter the storm, when you are with God, there is always a rainbow waiting.

Patricia White
Grand Esther

