

Dear faithful advocates,

Grace and peace to you. We bring news about the extension of Safer at Home and offer a few resources. The new Safer at Home order includes some adjustments but remains the same for churches; the under-10-person limit will remain in effect.

Lieutenant Governor Barnes in a call with faith leaders today, stated that Safer at Home has been working to flatten the curve. The Department of Health Services estimated Wisconsin would have 440-1,500 deaths from COVID-19 by April 8. Any death is significant, but the number of 99 who died by April 8 was below the number projected. Without having a vaccine, our non-pharmaceutical intervention continues to be vital. Here is Governor Evers' **Audio file of radio address.**

From The Wheeler Report:

EVERS EXTENDS SAFER AT HOME – CLOSES K-12 SCHOOLS FOR 2019-20 SCHOOL YEAR

Governor Evers has extended the Safer at Home order, which was set to expire on April 24, to 8 am, Tuesday, May 26. <u>In his statement</u>, Evers said "Before we lift Safer at Home, the steps of testing and more robust public health measures must be in place."

Emergency Order #28 says Wisconsin has managed to decrease the exponential growth in the number of cases in Wisconsin, so the state needs to continue safer at home to prevent spikes that could strain the health care system and risk more lives. The order goes on to say, "when deciding whether to extend the Safer at Home order, the administration considered the rate of spread of COVID-19 in Wisconsin; the health care capacity to meet the needs of the state; the testing, contact tracing, and isolation capacity in the state; the availability of personal protective equipment for healthcare workers, first responders, and other public servants that are required to perform face-to-face services; and the economic needs of Wisconsin and Wisconsinites."

Resources:

- What to do if someone in their home is sick from COVID-19.
- What to do if someone is awaiting test results.
- What to do if you've had close contact with some who has COVID-19.
- What to do if you're sick: CDC website.

• Free tool for COVID-19 screening for Wisconsin residents. If needed a Registered Nurse trained to assess and triage immediate COVID 19 screening results and health concerns will contact the person who filled out the form directly.

Thank you to Rev. Marcus Allen from Mt. Zion Baptist Church, and head of the African American Council of Churches, for sharing the above resources after his mother began struggled with COVID-19 and his sister tested positive.

In addition:



THE STEPS WISCONSINITES HAVE TAKEN







Practicing physical distancing



Washing your hands frequently with soap and water



Covering your nose and mouth when you cough and sneeze

FLATTENING THE CURVE

- Our initial projections show that without Safer at Home, there would be significantly more cases of COVID-19, resulting in more deaths.
- Safer at Home has flattened the curve, resulting in fewer cases, hospitalizations, and deaths.



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Let us care for ourselves and one another in the ways we are able at this time.

Yours in Christ,

Team LOPPW