



SECOND EPISCOPAL DISTRICT

James Levert Davis
Servant Bishop

MEMORANDUM

DATE: May 28, 2020

TO: Second Episcopal District Pastor and Congregation

FROM: James Levert Davis, *Servant Bishop*

SUBJECT: **MINISTRY OF “THANKS” TO ALL ESSENTIAL FRONTLINE WORKERS WORLDWIDE**

Greetings Local Church Pastors and Members!

You have received this information packet from the Second Episcopal District Office. This is another collaborative resource that you can add to your ministry toolkit. Our aim is to provide pertinent information for events, programs & initiatives that you are spearheading in response to current world situations.

As we very well know, the local church is the place where ministry happens. Employ your creative genius in utilizing this resource package, **A Tri-Dimensional Focus for ALL ESSENTIAL FRONTLINE WORKERS WORLDWIDE**, in your church and community.

As we continue to navigate the unprecedented Coronavirus (COVID 19) pandemic during these challenging times, we ask that we embrace a partnership Ministry to say **“thanks”** to a group of courageous individuals who risk their lives every day as they minister to others.

The Tri-Dimensional Focus package has a three-fold purpose:

1. **Raise consciousness** to what Essential Frontline Workers do.
2. Express **“THANKS”** for what they have done and are doing for our well-being and to keep us safe.
3. Disseminate a customized **FLYER** for printing and displaying in prominent places, such as our homes - doors, windows, cars, yard, offices. Share with others for display.

1. RAISE CONSCIOUSNESS

As reflected in the flyer, these **“she-roes/heroes”** symbolize what It means to show strength, courage, and commitment in the midst of a universal storm. These are the men and women who are rising to the COVID -19 challenge to help us. They are our community workers -- doctors, nurses, EMTs, pharmacists. They are our transportation & drivers, sanitation workers, grocery/service clerks, postal carriers & clerks, maintenance & warehouse workers, cooks, chefs, & servers. They are the spokes in the wheel, that keep us afloat. These are those who risk their own health, safety, and well-being of their families that we may thrive. These are they, angels of hope, who sacrifice their time, gifts, and safety and their families to provide services in our communities.

As reported in notable findings, Essential front line workers at the national level, include: Workers in frontline industries and are disproportionately women, People of color, over age 50 and with multiple family obligations, in building, cleaning services, and mainly live in low-income families.

While the COVID-19 Legislation passed by Congress to date includes some important protections for essential frontline workers, these workers remain under-protected and under-compensated. (Source: Center for Economic and Policy Research, Washington, DC).

2. EXPRESS THANKS

We can express thanks in numerous ways. One way is to lobby Congress to ensure that all frontline workers have such necessities as paid sick leave and paid family leave, free childcare, comprehensive health insurance that includes a free cover of COVID-19 testing and treatment, consumer, and labor protections. Advocate! Advocate! Advocate! for more stringent methods and needed material resources to keep them safe as they serve.

To bring it closer home, another way is to express appreciation for the tremendous work they do by acknowledging them with words of encouragement; even a simple, heartfelt “*Thank You*” goes a long way.

Celebrate them in other tangible ways as your creativity dictates, which is an appropriate transition to Focus #3.

3. PERSONALIZE & DISSEMINATE FLYER

Please note the fillable line at the top of the FLYER where you can write in your church’s name.

Display flyer in prominent places for Essential Frontline Worker to see Doors in homes, windows, cars, yard, offices and other creative places.

In creative and dynamic ways widely disseminate flyers in your church and community.

Share flyer with other individuals and groups. Encourage them to display flyers in ways suggested and other creative ways.

I feel safe in saying that all of us have been moved or inspired by a deed we have seen or heard about from others that speak to Essential Frontline Workers’ selfless responses to the ever-evolving COVID -19 condition.

THANKS, ESSENTIAL FRONTLINE WORKERS! You have risen to the unique and dangerous challenges that COVID-19 presents. We Appreciate ALL OF YOU!

In whatever situation we find ourselves, we know the power of prayer. We also are aware that there are factors that we cannot control. Even after following all precautions, life happens. People we love to get COVID-19. Others we know and love have contracted the virus. Some are hospitalized. Others are quarantined at home. Sorrowfully, persons we know, including some relatives have died as a result of the Coronavirus. Nonetheless, God is our ultimate Protector, Healer, and Savior, whatever the outcome. His Word tells us that not even a sparrow falls to the ground without God seeing it, and we are worth much more than sparrows to Him. We must have complete trust in God and that He will bring His plan to completion in His time.

LET’S JOIN IN UNITED PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING TO OUR GOD FOR ALL ESSENTIAL FRONTLINE WORKERS AROUND THE WORLD. AND PRAY FOR DELIVERANCE FROM COVID -19 PANDEMIC.

JOIN US IN 7 DAYS OF GLOBAL PRAYER JUNE 14-20, 2020.