

# The Voice of *St. Margaret's*

The Official Newsletter of St. Margaret's Episcopal Church

Volume 4 Issue 37 Jul-Aug 2020

## Mission Statement

The Mission of St. Margaret's Episcopal Church is  
To worship, to serve, and to form the spiritual growth  
Of individuals according to the teachings of Jesus Christ



## THE RECTOR'S DESK

### *Triumph Over Systemic Racism*

Institutional racism (also known as systemic racism) is a form of racism that is embedded as normal practice within society or an organization. It can lead to such issues as discrimination in criminal justice, employment, housing, health care, political power, and education, among other issues.

The vestiges of **racism leveled against black people in this nation, is evil and unjust. Systemic racism is racism resulting from the inherent biases and prejudices of the policies and practices of social and political organizations, groups, or institutions.** It is also called "institutional racism," a term coined by Black Power activists Charles V. Hamilton and Stokely Carmichael (later known as Kwame Ture) to distinguish it from individual racism, such as police brutality which is typically more overt.

I have had close friends who were turned down for jobs because they were of the wrong ethnicity; denied a promotion because they were the wrong gender; denied employment because they were under qualified or over qualified, which truthfully doesn't make any sense at all. I am sure; I am not the only one who has experienced life this way. I know that there are some of you who have been turned down for a loan because the loan officer had a bad day or did not want to deal with you long enough to approve your loan

## Service Schedule

Sundays  
8:am  
Holy Eucharist Rite I  
(No Music)

9:15 am  
Adult Formation Bible Study

10:30am  
Holy Eucharist Rite II  
(With Music)

11:00am  
Sunday School

Prayers for Healing  
Following the 10:30 am Service

Wednesday 12 Noon  
Bible Study

application. Maybe you or member of your family is experiencing challenges that are just not fair. The cold fact is that life is not fair. The more we try to please someone the more we stand to be let down. People are human in that they have their own way of viewing situations. They can have a “skewed” view of reality that keeps them from seeing all sides of the issue. Truly and undeniably, we have become an unfair people living in an unjust and racist nation.

The appalling events that are transpiring in cities across the nation are much too familiar a scene for black people throughout America. The soul of our America has been wounded and we are left psychologically scarred, emotionally traumatized, and righteously indignant. We seek comfort, demand justice, and want to heal. And, without question, we stand in solidarity with those in our neighborhoods whose eyes are now opened to injustice, inequality, violence, and systematic racism we have endured for centuries. Many qualities of life indicators in all 50 states, show our communities suffers from some of the widest black/white gaps in the nation when it comes to employment, education, housing, and healthcare. Trump’s Administration has repeatedly denied that discrimination against black Americans is embedded in the political, economic, and social structure of the country. Trump believes there are “injustices in society,” his press secretary said, but she brushed aside the notion that antiblackness is intrinsic to U.S. law enforcement. His National Security Adviser, Robert O’Brien, said racist police are just a “few bad apples,” adding, “we need to root them out.” [Attorney General William Barr](#) warned against “automatically assuming that the actions of an individual necessarily mean that their organization is rotten.”

But, for all that is good about America, something is rotten. The protesters around the world may have been galvanized by the [disturbing video of the murder of George Floyd](#), suffocated to death beneath the knee of a Minneapolis police officer. But at the core of their movement is much more than the outrage over the latest instances of police brutality. Centuries of racist policy, both explicit and implicit, have left black Americans in the dust, physically, emotionally, and economically.

America may think it has brushed chattel slavery into the dustbin of history after the Civil War, but the country never did a very good job incinerating its traumatic remains, instead leaving embers that still burn

today: an education system that fails black Americans, substandard health care that makes them more vulnerable to death and disease, and an economy that leaves millions without access to a living wage. Politicians, activists and everyday people can and should debate what to do about this reality, but it is a reality, one evident in volumes of data, research and reporting, not to mention the lived experience of millions of African Americans each and every day.

These rampant disparities in our nation have only been amplified by the COVID-19 pandemic, that has deeply wounded the social, economic, and general health and wellness of African Americans, indigenous populations, and other communities of color. Sadly, however, our nation's structural inequities do not stop there as the incarceration rates among racial and ethnic minorities far exceed those of the white population as does their general contact with the criminal justice system, including the disproportionate number of deaths of black and brown people at the hands of local law enforcement.

The triumph over racism, inequity is a monumental task that requires the participation of all Americans working to dismantle systemic racism, not merely in speech and writings, but in tangible and meaningful action.

*By: Fr. Ben Speare-Hardy II*



## Who's Who...

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*Rector*  
837-7741

### Priest Associate

*The Rev. George Kamani*

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Rector

*Robert F. Stockton III*  
Director of Music/Pianist

### Volunteer Receptionists

Thora Holder, Barbara Scott,  
Lucille Scott, Nancy Butler

## St. Margaret's Episcopal Church

5301 Free Pike

Trotwood, Ohio 45426



### Vestry

Agnes George, *Senior Warden*  
Steven George, *Junior Warden*  
Joyce Stone, *Church Treasurer*  
Monty Reece, *Assistant Treasurer*  
James Bolden, *Assistant Treasurer*  
Barbara Hudson-Banner, *Secretary*

Mac Howard                      Barbara Bass  
Nancy Butler  
Thora Holder  
Beatrice Ramsey  
Ellen McDaniel  
Karen Schuster-Webb  
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The Voice is Published Quarterly

Deadline: 18<sup>th</sup> of month

Please e-mail all articles to:

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### July

6 Curtis R. White  
15 Marlene Eskridge  
23 Judy Battle  
23 Sylvia Wilson  
23 Sara Smith Custer  
26 William Reece  
29 Roy Parks, Sr.  
30 Paula Ramey  
30 Maeda Thompson

### August

2 Valerie Jackson  
4 Harvey Toles  
5 Ellen McDaniel  
10 Phyllis Brunson  
11 Peggy Libecap  
18 Sandra Scott

### Anniversaries

#### July

29 James & Evelyn Hairston  
31 Ronald & Laura Ogletree

#### August

6 James & Melanie Francis  
20 Thomas & Elizabeth Clark

**Due to the Covid-19 Pandemic the Brotherhood and ECW have suspended their meetings until further notice. We hope to resume our fish fries soon. Stay safe, continue wearing your mask and practicing social distancing.**

### *Worship Leaders*

**We've been extended for another month!! 🙄🙄🙄**

**Seriously Rock Star Readers, until further notice, I will prepare schedules monthly. Please let me know of any days not workable for you. We will need all readers each month.**

**🙄 Stay safe, stay home, stay patient. *Judy Wilson, Coordinator***

**7/5. Bob, Valerie, Jim**

**7/12. Judy W, Brenda, Raymond**

**7/19. Gloria, Michael, Robert**

**7/26. Judy B, Phyllis, Monty**

**A Special Thank You to Our**

**Jr. Wardens**

**St. Margaret's Episcopal Church would like to thank MICHAEL THOMPSON for a job well done! We especially appreciate the beautiful Memorial Garden.**

**We also want to extend a warm welcome to STEPHEN GEORGE, our new Junior Warden, who hit the ground running!**

**St. Margaret's is truly blessed to have these hard working, dedicated parishioners.**

**THANK YOU BOTH, and may God continue to Bless you!**

## **Principles Don't Change – But Time Changes Everything**

The major characteristic of principles is that they are usually true for many people, but they rarely change. How often have you heard a statement like this? “I don't believe in the laws of gravity or” or “The laws of gravity may be true for you, but they aren't true for me.”

Although they may not be the same statements, but won't you agree that these kinds of statements are similar to those that we consider to be our personal guides for living. Most of these statements are not coherent. Something is either true or not true regardless of whether anyone believes it.

Think about how communication has changed over the years. Would you have ever imagined that you would be able to walk down the street and talk with a friend or your spouse on a small phone? I think that one of the biggest changes is in Communications. It's not that the principles of communication have changed, but how we communication has. The change has not only filtered into our lives, it has greatly affected our educational system. Think about our educational system today,

especially during the entrance of the coronavirus. The conventional classroom teaching style of a teacher or professor standing in front of students and lecturing has been replaced with students sitting in front of a computer or their smart phones and completing an assignment. We have seen situations where educating the masses cannot take place because of the absence of technology. Having the latest iPhone or tablet, wouldn't make us automatically call every person on a list, until we decided to call him/her in the first place.

When we think about how an upscale presentation delivered from an iPad by the teacher, doesn't necessarily mean that the students will completely understand the lecture because those teachers or parents must adjust and be guided by the unchanging principles of their lives.

According to Blaine Lee, the Vice President of the Covey Leadership Center, one of the world's premier leadership development authorities and author of “The Power Principle,” says this of the principles you live by: “***The Principles you live by create the world you live in; if you change the principles you live by, you will change your world.***”

### **Principles...**

Change is inevitable when we think about the past five or even ten years. The economy has fluctuated, fashion trends have come and passed and not only was the iPhone introduced, but there have been five different versions released during the past five years.

The positive aspect of this change is that we have been given the opportunity to grow. A popular recording artist received positive remarks from the media and others because they had changed lyrics of a song in order that they would reflect the changing times, we live in.

Like music, the Bible has many important messages, but many people criticize it because it doesn't seem to be relevant and out of step, so some have attempted to update the Bible to reflect their personal perspective.

Let's face it – the world is continuously changing. Not only have songs seem to have lost their relevance, because of this change, The same is true of our principles. They may be viewed as outdated and a little rigid, perhaps we should leave them in favor of principles that are more current and easier to understand, but our principles have held on because they are morally sound and because we know that they do afford people, from all walks of life, with the opportunity to pursue happiness and acquire the American dream.

These principles do not change, they last and we must continue the fight of advancing them.

Although we will need to adjust to how much the times are changing, we still need to keep our principles in tack.

*Submitted by: Brenda Cochran*



## **Let Us Pray**

**Grace is when God gives  
us good things that we  
don't deserve.**

**Mercy is when He spares us  
from bad things we deserve.**

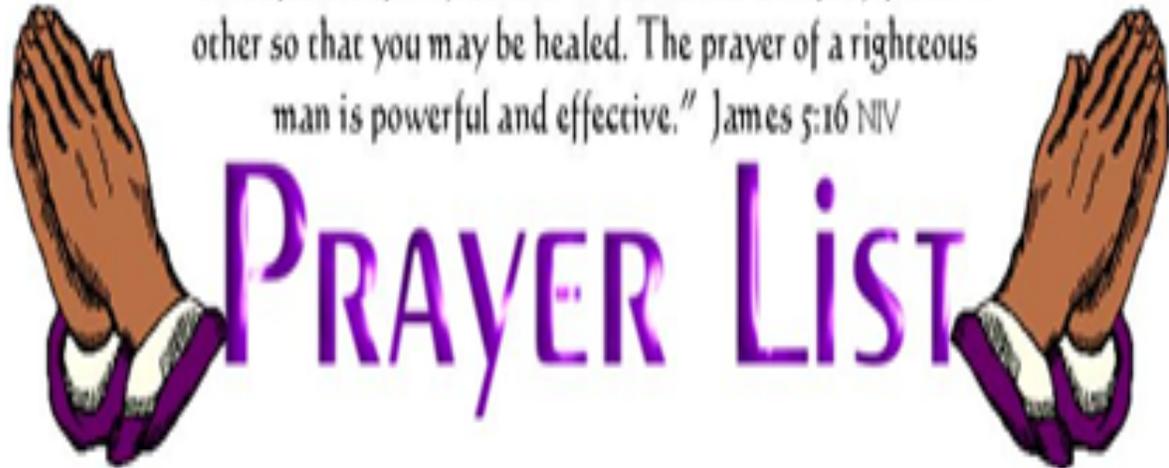
**Blessings are when He is  
generous with both.**

**Truly, we can never run out  
of reasons to thank Him.**

**God is Good All The Time!**

\*\*\*\*\*

"Therefore confess your sins to each other and pray for each other so that you may be healed. The prayer of a righteous man is powerful and effective." James 5:16 NIV



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## **Bishop Breidenthal: 146th annual convention to be virtual**

June 11, 2020

Bishop Breidenthal, e-Connections

Dear sisters and brothers in Christ,

Although we don't know what November will be like in terms of the pandemic, it seems highly unlikely we will be ready for 300+ people to gather in the nave of Christ Church Cathedral for this year's convention on November 7. After prayerful consideration, discussion with Diocesan Council and my staff, I have come to the conclusion that this year's convention (and pre-convention) needs to be held virtually.

Having a virtual convention may seem scary, but rest assured, my staff will do whatever it takes to ensure everyone can participate. The [diocesan convention page](#) will have many resources. If you believe you may have potential problems, go to the [convention page](#) and fill out the help form. One of my staff will contact you personally and do whatever it takes for you to be able to participate fully in our virtual convention.

I've watched as congregations across this diocese have risen up and met the challenges of this pandemic with creativity, ingenuity and fervor. I know we can also overcome the challenge of a virtual convention.

The Rt. Rev. Thomas E. Breidenthal  
Bishop of Southern Ohio

### ***Important dates and deadlines***

- **August 10:** Proposed Constitution or Canonical changes due (90 days prior)
- **September 8, 2020:** Constitution or Canonical changes deadline (60 days prior)
- **September 23:** Nominations requested; Resolutions deadline (45 days prior)
- **October 23:** Nominations deadline
- **October 27:** Pre-convention meeting and Nominee Forum, 7 p.m. via Zoom
- **November 7:** 146th annual convention, 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. via Zoom

# What You'll Need

**If you are a delegate here's what you'll need to participate in a virtual convention:**

- Access to reliable internet service
- A reliable computer
- An up to date web browser
- [Zoom downloaded](#) on your machine
- If you already have Zoom on your machine, make sure you are using version 5.0 or higher. [Update Zoom here](#).
- Ideally, a second device, such as a smartphone or tablet to vote. You can vote with your computer, but that means switching back and forth from Zoom to the voting software.

**If you are not a delegate:**

- Any device that will connect to the internet. (We will be sending out a streaming link as we get closer to the convention.)

**If you have obstacles to being able to participate in a virtual convention, then click the red help button and a staff person will contact you.**

**[Help!](#)**

## Remembering St. Margaret's EC

You may make a bequest to St. Margaret's Episcopal Church by preparing a new will or by adding a codicil to your present will. To make sure your exact intentions are carried out wills and codicils should be prepared by or with the advice of an attorney.

The most useful bequest is an unrestricted bequest for the general purpose of the Church. This permits the Church to use your gift wherever it is needed at the time.

For more information on making a bequest consult your attorney or estate planner.

### Membership in St. Margaret's Episcopal Church, Trotwood

If you are currently a member of another Episcopal Church and would like to transfer your membership to St. Margaret's please contact the Parish Administrator at 937-837-7741 so that a request for a letter of transfer can be prepared for you.

If you are not currently a member of an Episcopal Church and desire to become a member we would welcome your commitment to God and the Church. All baptized Christians are welcome to receive Communion in the Episcopal Church and to participate fully in programs and ministries of the Church.

Individuals who have been baptized within any denomination can officially be prepared for membership by attending formal confirmation classes, which are conducted by the church. The Bishop subsequent to class completion will perform confirmation of prepared candidates. Dates for both classes and confirmation will be announced when they have been determined. If you would like additional information or baptism, please call the Parish Administrator at the church office 937-837-7741

**Church Rental:** Are you planning a reception or anniversary, celebration or just looking for a place to hold a meeting or musical concert? St. Margaret's can accommodate your needs. Contact the church office 937-837-7741 for complete details.



## Say Hello To.....

Well, we've seen Palm Sunday, Easter Sunday, Pentecost, Mother's Day and Father's Day, birthdays, anniversaries, way too many fish fries and bake sales pass us by. We keep following the rules and praying for an end to this madness. We see people who refuse to accept the reality of the world today, and thus make it harder for all of us.

I know God has His plan, and He carries it out in His way, and when He's ready, we'll know it.

On those days when I feel lonely, and have sad thoughts, I recognize that it's because I miss ALL of you SO much! I miss dressing the altar, singing in the choir, helping with the Eucharist, mingling together at coffee hour, debating at bible study, meeting with the ECW, laughing together, shuckin' and jivin' !

But then each morning, I Thank God that I am alive and well. That those I love are alive and well. That I have money and food and shelter, and NETFLIX!!

Keep hanging in there everybody! Keep praying and counting your blessings! Do what you can to help those who have so much less than we do, and **BELIEVE!!**

This too shall pass.

So the next time you're feeling down and out, and don't think you can last another day inside that house with that crazy (*fill in the blank*), don't despair, don't break that dish, or kick that TV, just chill out, and....

**Say Hello to.....GOD!**

Ya'll be nice now!

*Submitted by: Judy Wilson*

# *The Diocese of Southern Ohio*

**FAQ regarding return to increasing in-person parish life June 19, 2020**

## **Question 1: Are we in Phase 1 or Phase 2?**

**Answer:** Congregations may now make the decision to move into Phase 2 at this time. The factors that will help guide the decision to move into Phase 2 are:

- Check public health indicators for your specific area. Guidelines say that the COVID-19 infection rate for your county must be either **flat or declining for two weeks** before moving into Phase 2. You can find this information on the [COVID-19 Dashboard](#) and more specifically on your specific county health department site.
- Congregation's ability to follow the guidelines issued as it relates to disinfecting, wearing of masks, etc.
- Setup of building if it allows physical distancing. We have been using the physical distancing guideline for our churches as the controlling piece of information for reopening.



At this time there is no indication as to when Phase 3 will occur. We estimate that this may take several months, but will communicate as more information comes available. Also, keep in mind there is a possibility of moving back to Phase 1 if public health orders require us

to do so.

**Q2: When congregations re- open, are they guided by the amount of space they have for physical distancing, their 50% occupancy rate, or a cap on the number (like 10)?**

**A:** For worship gatherings, each congregation needs to make their decision on how many can safely gather in their specific space; with a **maximum** of 50% occupancy and taking into consideration physical distancing of at least 6 feet between family units. It is advisable for larger congregations to have a limit **lower than** 50% to start, and to work up to that level over a few weeks by observing how people react to the distancing requirements and wearing of masks.

**Q3: Do our social distancing guidelines also control the admittance of small groups and outside groups such as AA, etc.?**

**A:** Yes. Any group entering the building must agree to comply with the social distancing guidelines, wearing masks and sanitization rules. It is suggested to start with a limit of 10 people for these groups and work up to larger numbers (not exceeding 50% of occupancy) depending on size of the room. Each meeting room should display maximum occupancy and have only enough seating available for that number. In addition, it would be helpful to display a floor plan diagramming how to ensure the 6 foot distancing.

**Q4: What liability does the church have if someone contracts the virus while attending a service or using the church for a meeting?**

**A:** There is no special provision in Church Insurance policies regarding COVID-19 liability. It is recommended that a cautionary statement be published in the invitation to reopen that attendance at worship is subject to the risk of contracting the disease and that by attending you are voluntarily assuming that risk. Our chancellor has suggested this wording but it should not be used as a standalone statement:

*“We ask that all present observe our guidelines and rules for health and safety during worship. We cannot and do not guarantee the absence of risk from your presence with us.”*

Church Insurance Co. has provided this guidance: For liability, a covered occurrence is defined as an accident (aka unforeseeable) and we do not know if this type of loss (claim in terms of COVID-19) fits that definition. Additionally, we do not know how courts will see this type of suit since it has never been tested. In general, coverage opinions suggest coverage is unlikely but again, we cannot answer the question definitively without specific details of a loss. Of course, the best defense against lawsuits is to avoid negligence. In any event, we will review every claim on a case-by-case basis.

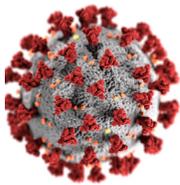
**Q5: Is the liturgy of Spiritual Communion authorized until actual reception is allowed?**

A: Bishop Breidenthal has indicated that this is acceptable. Some churches are using this traditional prayer from the Army Prayer Book:

*In union, O Lord with the faithful at every altar of Thy Church, where the Holy Eucharist is now being celebrated, I desire to offer Thee praise and thanksgiving. I present to Thee my soul and body with the earnest wish that may always be united to Thee. And since I can not now receive Thee sacramentally, I beseech Thee to come spiritually into my heart. I unite myself to Thee, and embrace Thee with all the affections of my soul. Let nothing ever separate Thee from me. May I live and die in Thy love. Amen.*

You also can find an expanded, modern liturgy in St. Augustine’s Prayer Book (Forward Movement, 2014) pp. 190-193.

# What you should know about COVID-19 to protect yourself and others



## Know about COVID-19

- **Coronavirus (COVID-19) is an illness caused by a virus that can spread from person to person.**
- **The virus that causes COVID-19 is a new coronavirus that has spread throughout the world.**
- **COVID-19 symptoms can range from mild (or no symptoms) to severe illness.**

## Know how COVID-19 is spread

- **You can become infected by coming into close contact (about 6 feet or two arm lengths) with a person who has COVID-19. COVID-19 is primarily spread from person to person.**
- **You can become infected from respiratory droplets when an infected person coughs, sneezes, or talks.**
- **You may also be able to get it by touching a surface or object that has the virus on it, and then by touching your mouth, nose, or eyes.**

## Protect yourself and others from COVID-19

- **There is currently no vaccine to protect against COVID-19. The best way to protect yourself is to avoid being exposed to the virus that causes COVID-19.**
- **Stay home as much as possible and avoid close contact with others.**

- **Wear a cloth face covering that covers your nose and mouth in public settings.**
- **Clean and disinfect frequently touched surfaces.**
- **Wash your hands often with soap and water for at least 20 seconds, or use an alcohol- based hand sanitizer that contains at least 60% alcohol.**

## **Practice social distancing**

- **Buy groceries and medicine, go to the doctor, and complete banking activities online when possible.**
- **If you must go in person, stay at least 6 feet away from others and disinfect items you must touch.**
- **Get deliveries and takeout, and limit in-person contact as much as possible.**

## **Prevent the spread of COVID-19 if you are sick**

- **Stay home if you are sick, except to get medical care.**
- **Avoid public transportation, ride-sharing, or taxis.**
- **Separate yourself from other people and pets in your home.**
- **There is no specific treatment for COVID-19, but you can seek medical care to help relieve your symptoms.**
- **If you need medical attention, call ahead.**

## **Know your risk for severe illness**

- **Everyone is at risk of getting COVID-19.**
- **Older adults and people of any age who have serious underlying medical conditions may be at higher risk for more severe illness.**





**cdc.gov/coronavirus**

# **Important Information About Your Cloth Face Coverings**

Print Resources Web Page: <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/communication/print-resources.html>

**As COVID-19 continues to spread within the United States, CDC has recommended additional measures to prevent the spread of SARS-CoV-2, the virus that causes COVID-19. In the context of community transmission, CDC recommends that you:**

**Stay at home as much as possible**

**Practice social distancing (remaining at least 6 feet away from others)**

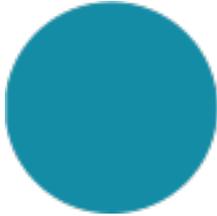
**Clean your hands often**

**In addition, CDC also recommends that everyone wear cloth face coverings when leaving their homes, regardless of whether they have fever or symptoms of COVID-19. This is because of evidence that people with COVID-19 can spread the disease, even when they don't have any symptoms. Cloth face coverings should not be placed on young children under age 2, anyone who has trouble breathing, or is unconscious, incapacitated, or otherwise unable to remove the mask without assistance.**

## **How cloth face coverings work**

**Cloth face coverings may prevent the person wearing the mask from spreading respiratory droplets when talking, sneezing, or coughing. If everyone wears a cloth face covering when out in public, such as going to the grocery store, the risk of exposure to SARS-CoV-2 can be reduced for the**

**community. Since people may spread the virus before symptoms start, or even if people never have symptoms, wearing a cloth face covering may protect others around you. Face coverings worn by others may protect you from getting the virus from people carrying the virus.**



## **General considerations for the use of cloth face coverings**

**When using a cloth face covering, make sure:**

- **The mouth and nose are fully covered**
- **The covering fits snugly against the sides of the face so there are no gaps**
- **You do not have any difficulty breathing while wearing the cloth face covering**
- **The cloth face covering can be tied or otherwise secured to prevent slipping**

**Wash your cloth face covering after each use in the washing machine or by hand using a bleach solution Allow it to completely dry.**

**For more information, go to:**

**<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/prevent-getting-sick/how-to-make-cloth-face-covering>.**

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# If you test positive for COVID-19 TAKE STEPS TO HELP PREVENT THE SPREAD OF COVID-19

## **STAY HOME.**

Do not leave your home, except to get medical care. Do not visit public areas.

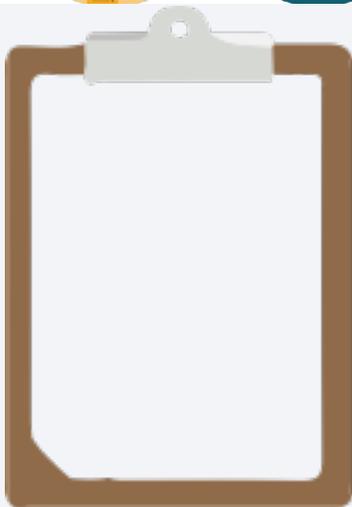
## **GET REST AND STAY HYDRATED.**

Take over-the-counter medicines, such as acetaminophen, to help you feel better.

## **STAY IN TOUCH WITH YOUR DOCTOR.**

## **SEPARATE YOURSELF FROM OTHER PEOPLE.**

As much as possible, stay in a specific room and away from other people and pets in your home.



## If you test negative for COVID-19

- You probably were not infected at the time your sample was collected.
- However, **that does not mean you will not get sick.**
- It is possible that you were very early in your infection when your sample was collected and that **you could test positive later.**

**A negative test result does not mean you won't get sick later.**



317369-A | May 30, 2020 7:25 PM

**CDC.GOV/CORONAVIRUS**

# TIPS FOR SHOPPING DURING THE CORONAVIRUS OUTBREAK.



**Wear a face covering.**



**Skip the gloves.**



**Shop quickly & be efficient.**



**Stay six feet away from others.**



**Limit what you touch.**



**Only go when you need to.**

# *St. Margaret's Episcopal Church*



**We will be Back Soon**

**The Congregation**

**Sunday Worship Service 9:30 A.M.  
Via Teleconference Call in Number  
1-844-621-3956 Pass Code: 470741312#**

**Noonday Prayer Line 12:00 Noon Sun-Sat  
Via Teleconference Call in Number  
712-432-6258 Pass Code: 810151#**

*Living the Vision from Generation to Generation*



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# Notes