



Rev. Conitras M. Houston, Senior Pastor

May 23, 2020

Greetings, Trinitarians!

The prophet Isaiah stated in Isaiah 26:3, “[God] will keep in perfect peace those whose minds are steadfast, because they trust in you”. I pray that this notice finds you continuing to build your trust in God—I pray God is giving you perfect peace in the midst of all that is going on around us.

There has been a great deal of discussion over the reopening of churches. As you may have heard, the Center for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) and the President of the United States differ in opinions. Additionally, Bishop Reginald T. Jackson is providing leadership and guidance to Georgia pastors and their pro temps of the local church’s steward and trustee boards. Bishop Jackson is recommending a mid-June reopening. However, there are a great deal of requirements that the church would have to meet in order to reopen (to include, but not limited to: touchless hand sanitizing stations, 6-foot social distancing seating in the sanctuary, one person in the restroom, no serving of food, as well as congregant screening and liability waivers).

Based on the breadth of requirements, restrictions, and the great deal of unknown circumstances and facts surrounding COVID-19, I am convicted spiritually for Trinity to *take our time* in returning to the building. Therefore, Trinity AME Church will continue to refrain from in-person worship, Sunday School, Bible Study, or other meetings at this time. In order to still provide a corporate worship experience, we will continue to stream live via Facebook (search for Try Trinity AME if you are not already following the church) at 10:30am every Sunday until further notice. Additionally, we are continuing to have Bible Study on Wednesdays—noon via conference call and at 7:00pm via Facebook Live.

You can access the live feed by clicking the Facebook icon on our website (www.trinityamechurch.com) or from our app (TrinityAME). For those who are not able to access the internet, you will be able to attend worship via conference call. Please note the dial-in information:

Call-in Number: 712-775-7031

Access Code: 178441

As we continue to seek God, follow the leadership of our Bishop, and other authorities, we want to hear from you. We have created an online survey for you to complete. Visit our website (www.trinityamechurch.com) and click COVID preparations in order to complete the survey.

Let me also thank you for remaining strong in your stewardship to the ministry of Trinity A.M.E. Church. Your stewardship has been vital in this season and has enabled us to continue to meet all of our obligations, while also extending benevolence to our Trinitarian family. I also commend Sister Rita Hutchins for her leadership in outreach to Arbor Terrace. Under the direction of President Evelyn Roberson, our missionaries provided lunch for the staff. Special thanks to Brother Clinton Gloster who has continued to tend to the Trinity Community Garden. We continue to reap a harvest of fresh vegetables, strawberries, and more. If you would like anything from the garden, feel free to reach out to me or Brother Gloster to arrange a time for a drive-thru pickup at the church. *See pictures attached.*

Please continue to worship God in your giving virtually through our website (www.trinityamechurch.com), app (TrinityAME) or texting GIVE to 877-697-0604. If you are unable to give virtually, please mail your tithes and offerings to 604 Lynhurst Dr SW, Atlanta, GA 30311. We will process the mail throughout the week and ensure your stewardship is registered. Kudos to our Chief Financial Officer, Brother Steve Kenner, and our Treasurer, Sister Dessa Curb, for continuing to maintain integrity with our financial obligations and records.

At this time, Trinity AME Early Learning Center is also remaining closed. I am so thankful to our CFO for applying and securing a PPP Loan for TELC—this has ensured that we have been able to compensate our entire team throughout this pandemic. Additionally, Sister Theodora Bingham has been an amazing asset as she has been able to apply for and secure a number of additional grants for TELC. Our Directors, Mr. Taurus Jackson and Ms. Synitra Hutcherson, have maintained constant communication with our teachers, as well as our families. On yesterday, we hosted a drive-thru End of the Year celebration for our Pre-K students. It was a great success! Please note: we are accepting registrations for the 2020-2021 school year. If you know of families with pre-k aged children (turning 4 by September 1, 2020), please recommend Trinity AME Early Learning Center! *Please share the attached flyer.* TELC is preparing to reopen in June 2020. Special thanks to those of you who have made contributions towards the securing of masks, face shields, and other items that will be needed to reopen. Early Learning Centers have been cleared for a few weeks, but we are taking additional precautions before reopening.

Celebrate good times, come on!!! We have a number of High School and Higher Education graduates! Additionally, we have quite a number of transition graduates from Elementary and Middle School. Congratulations to them all! As a reminder, tomorrow is the deadline for us to receive needed information on your High School and Higher Education graduates. *Please see the attached flyer for directions.*

Lastly, thank you to Brother Kelvin Beasley for his tireless work at handling most of our communications. We are truly grateful for him. If you have moved or are unsure if we have an accurate mailing address for you, please send your contact information in to trinityame@gmail.com as soon as possible. You will be receiving a special package from me next week, and I want to make sure everyone receives it.

Trinity, you all are in my prayers, but most importantly—we are in the loving and protective hands of our Lord! I miss your faces, however, we must remain safe. Our class leaders are doing a great job reaching out, and I am trying to hear a few of your voices per week as well. Feel free to call, text, or email me also. Love you all!

Blessings,



Pastor C

Note: This information and procedures are subject to change based on directives from the national and local government, Connectional church leadership, and the CDC.