## MISSISSIPPI SOUTHERN FIRST ECCLESIASTICAL JURISDICTION

## **Church of God in Christ**

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Bishop Daniel T. Littleton Jurisdiction Prelate

April 10, 2020

Greetings Mississippi Southern First,

On Monday, April 6, 2020, I met with the Board of Superintendents to discuss your well-being and that of our churches as we continue to navigate through COVID-19. After discussing the impact of this pandemic and its alarmingly disproportionate effect on the African American community as well as the Church Of God In Christ, Inc., I have prayerfully decided to ask all churches within our Jurisdiction to close until April 20, 2020. At which time, we will again reevaluate the state of the virus and decide how best to proceed. This has been a very difficult decision and one that has required much prayer. I certainly appreciate your support and understanding.

Social distancing does not exempt us from sharing the love of Christ; nor will it hinder us from spreading the Good News of His death, burial and resurrection. I encourage all pastors to continue using other virtual means to minister to God's people. Please utilize teleconference calls, video conference calls, FaceBook Live, YouTube and other social media platforms that allow you to record from your home and share.

To each of you, I am grateful for your commitment to prayer each Friday night. Please remember to join us again this evening at 6:30 pm as we corporately petition God. The call-in number is 515-604-9598, Access Code: 784125.

I am also excited to announce today, the launch of our new Jurisdictional website, weareonecogic.com. Please visit the site for important information on our services, how to request food assistance from us, updates from our COVID-19 task force, and so much more.

Thank you for your love and never-failing support. I love you and look forward to the day that we can meet face-to-face again, so that our joy may be full.

Serving to bring glory to my Father,

**Bishop Daniel Littleton**