

# Grand Chapter of Nebraska



# Order of the Eastern Star

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To our Subordinate Chapters, Officers and Members of Nebraska Grand Chapter, and our Brothers and Sisters across the various jurisdictions of our Order:

It is the decision of the Board of Grand Trustees, Grand Secretary, Worthy Grand Patron and Worthy Grand Matron and consulting with our Jurisprudence Committee and Parliamentarian that the May 12-14, 2020 Annual Session of Nebraska Grand Chapter will not occur.

On Sunday, March 15, 2020 the Centers for Disease Control released guidelines for group meetings that no groups larger than 50 shall gather or meet together through May 16, 2020. The CDC guideline has since been tightened to groups of 20. On Monday March 16, our President declared a National State of Emergency, followed by our Governor declaring a State of Emergency in Nebraska. These guidelines and emergency declarations have prompted the enactment of Article 3; Section 3 of our Grand Chapter Constitution which calls for a committee of the Worthy Grand Matron, Worthy Grand Patron, Grand Secretary and Board of Grand Trustees to determine whether the holding of the annual Grand Chapter Session is impossible or inadvisable. Their decision is that it is inadvisable for the health, well-being and safety of our members and impossible under the current legal declarations for the 2020 Annual Session to meet in Kearney on May 12-14, 2020. With this decision, the Annual Session is scheduled for May 11-13, 2021 in Kearney. All Grand Officers shall remain in their present offices until the next Annual Session.

At this time our Chapters are not able to meet; therefore, distributing this communication cannot occur in Communications at your stated meeting. Please reach out to your members. It is a good time to call and share personal human communications. This will also give you a chance to hear about your members' daily lives. If you would like to email this communication, it is being electronically sent to Worthy Matrons and Chapter Secretaries, and other group databases. You may forward it. Printing and mailing is also an approved option.

Communications and updates will continue to flow from Grand Chapter as situations, concerns, needs and opportunities arise. It is our expectation at this time that there will be no area visitations or meetings able to be scheduled for group gatherings throughout the summer.

In this unprecedented time, may our prayers flow for each other; for those affected, struggling and suffering; for our local, state and federal leaders; our health care professionals; and all first responders. May we share comfort and assurance that even though we do not have control over this crisis, we know that our God reigns, loves, and will carry us through this earthly challenge.

Star love and filled with respect for each of you,

Karan Birdsall, Worthy Grand Matron  
Bruce A. Baker, Worthy Grand Patron  
Dottie Arent, Associate Grand Matron  
David A. Wetrosky, Associate Grand Patron  
Jan Thoman, PGM, Grand Secretary  
Board of Grand Trustees

