

# COURAGE TO GO ON

United Holy Church of America



September 10, 2020

When doing the work of the Lord one does not know what events will come to change the face of time—forever changing our mission assignment. Our theme for the year, “Courage to Go On,” was prophetic. No one could have anticipated the challenges of the impending global pandemic and the social unrest in the United States that has followed.

As the oldest, black Pentecostal organization in America, we have been uniquely challenged in our presentation of the gospel of Jesus Christ. Faced with a population that is disproportionately impacted by the effects of health, housing, and food insecurities presented by COVID-19, we have been inspired by God to reach the masses in unique ways. Yes, our church has suffered losses, but miraculously God has brought healing to parishioners, loved ones, and many that we serve.

*“Grace be unto you, and peace, from God our Father, and from the Lord Jesus Christ. I thank my God upon every remembrance of you, always in every prayer of mine for you all making request with joy, for your fellowship in the gospel from the first day until now; being confident of this very thing, that he which hath begun a good work in you will perform it until the day of Jesus Christ: even as it is meet for me to think this of you all, because I have you in my heart; inasmuch as both in my bonds, and in the defense and confirmation of the gospel, ye all are partakers of my grace.”*

✠ Philippians 1:2–6 ✠



Many of our congregations are located in areas impacted by the virus and social unrest. In places where hearts are filled with anger, hopelessness, and despair, our local churches have been challenged to listen to the voices, hearing the pain, and yet lifting the hearts and minds of the population. We are reaching them at the

point of their needs. Through housing programs, food pantries, counseling and social service support, the love of Christ is being shown to those most in need.

As our churches are spread across the country, the impact on “church as usual” has been different. The traditional congregational gathering has shifted in many locations, based on corona virus levels. Through the use of technology, the gospel of Jesus Christ is reaching souls for the kingdom. The reach has expanded beyond that of our four walls, connecting us with new members both near and far.

We must face the challenges of “churching” both now and in the post-pandemic age. Will the church return to the pre-pandemic stage or will we pattern our tomorrow following the example set by Christ in feeding the 5,000 while giving them the “Bread of Life”? Yes, our outreach, our mission is moving and changing to “meet the masses, men of every birth” and lifting Christ. **The United Holy Church of America is committed to hasten the return of Christ by reaching the lost at any cost.**

