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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

## **COVID-19 TESTING AT FIRST METROPOLITAN CHURCH**

### **First church in Houston to have a massive day of testing on May 23, 2020**

May 22, 2020 – Houston, TX – UMMC Hospital teams up with First Metropolitan to offer COVID-19 testing to any resident regardless of insurance, ability to pay or whether they are symptomatic or asymptomatic. Residents can register for testing by appointment only.

The increased access to community testing will help Harris County reach its goal for easing social restrictions in the current shelter-in-place order, which lasts through June 10. Previously, tests were only offered for patients with symptoms of illness.

“The testing should be done to not only figure out where you are, but also protect your neighbor,” Dr. Joseph Gathe, MD, Infectious Disease Specialist. “It’s all about our community. It’s not just about the individual.”

First Metropolitan Church, led by Dr. John and Evelyn Ogletree, opened its doors and has been a staple in the Northwest Houston area since 1986. The mission of First Metropolitan Church is to be a dynamic congregation that declares God’s Word to the community and beyond. First Metropolitan is the home of the You Belong Food Pantry which feeds over 2000 families a month in our community. Recently, the food pantry partnered with Kroger/NBA to feed 600 families during this COVID-19 pandemic.

Visit [myfirstmet.com](http://myfirstmet.com) for details about additional COVID-19 initiatives and visit [ummcscreening.com](http://ummcscreening.com) for additional testing locations. <https://myfirstmet.com/covid-19-pr/>

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