FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Allegan County Health Department Reinforces Commitment to Social Distancing

(Allegan, MI)—Spring time is here and there are many religious celebrations around the corner. With the “Stay Home, Stay Safe” Executive Order still in place, the Allegan County Health Department (ACHD) reminds residents to stay committed to social distancing and avoid in-person gatherings.

“While our celebrations may look different this year, remember that we are in this together,” said Health Officer, Angelique Joynes, MPH, RN. “Keep your loved ones healthy, be creative with celebrations, and stay home.”

We know that COVID-19 can spread even before there are any symptoms of illness, so it is important to avoid any traditions that include family and friends or other people who do not live with you. These events include gathering for special worship services, Easter egg hunts, Passover meals, or other events.

There are many ways to stay safe in your worship during the COVID-19 pandemic:
• Check your place of worship’s webpage and social media for virtual services.
• Celebrate with family via video chat.
• Have visits to loved ones in hospitals, nursing homes, or other residential care facilities using tools via video chat. If your loved one needs help, ask their caregivers to assist you to set that up ahead of time.
• Cook traditional foods at home to enjoy the familiar tastes and smells of the holiday.
• Consider a smaller celebration with your immediate family now, and hold a larger celebration when the pandemic is over.
• If you are setting up remote worship, make sure to communicate with your community on how to get connected.

Please remember, it is up to each of us to do our part in this fight against a new virus. In protecting our families and ourselves, we protect each other. For questions, please call the ACHD hotline at (269) 686-4546 or email COVID-19@allegancounty.org.

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