Thank you very much for your tremendous efforts to care for each member amid the continued spread of the new coronavirus (COVID-19). Together with SGI President Ikeda, we are chanting daimoku wholeheartedly for the quickest possible end to this threat and a return to normality.

Because of the uncertainty of the times, we’d like to place special emphasis on how we communicate this year’s May Commemorative Contribution focus to the members.

**Individual Care and Faith Encouragement (via phone or video):**

As the SGI-USA community, we’d like to reach out to every member, preferably by voice or video, from Tuesday, April 28, to Sunday, June 7, to first and foremost ask them: Are you safe? Are you healthy? Do you need anything? Let’s then do our best to impart courage and hope through encouragement in faith.

As we do so, let us also keep in mind that many members are experiencing financial challenges due to the abrupt shutdown of businesses.

Through our sincere efforts to encourage each person, we want to emphasize the purpose of our SGI community to enable each individual to develop unshakable faith and to not allow anyone to give up hope in the process. From there, please share your own rich experiences of contributing based on a vow, with the confidence that members will contribute as appropriate.

We will also not engage in “tracking” outreach efforts by frontline leaders, either online or otherwise. Again, the emphasis this year will be on faith encouragement through individual care.

**Contribution Representatives:**

Naoko Leslie and the three Territory Women’s leaders will be the contribution representatives for the National and Territory levels. Region through Zone Women’s and/or Men’s division leaders should be the contribution representatives at those levels. Naturally, the outreach effort itself will be carried out by line leaders (e.g., line district leaders will take responsibility to contact the members in their respective districts/divisions). Leaders should take the initiative to support their assigned districts in these outreach efforts.

**Group Through Territory Encouragement Teleconference:**

A nationwide contribution encouragement teleconference will be held at the beginning of April by audio link for all group through territory leaders.

**New Member Contribution Interview Process:**

The new member contribution interview process will be postponed. Per the interview guidelines, leaders may conduct an interview **only if** a new member expresses a desire to contribute.

**Appreciation Gift:**

Each member who participates in May Contribution will receive by mail a beautifully designed 12-bookmark set with quotes from *The New Human Revolution*, volumes 13–24.

**Ways to Contribute:**

- **via Membership Portal** at www.sgi-usa.org/contributions
- **Scan this QR code** with your phone
- **(855) SGI-2030 | (855) 744-2030**
  Monday - Friday: 9AM - 5PM PT
- **via Mail with SGI-USA Contribution Envelope**

***No cash will be accepted because our centers, the only places where cash is accepted, will most likely be closed during the contribution period***

**Resources for Encouragement:**

- Encouragement and messages from national leaders will be available via SGI-USA’s social media platforms throughout the May Contribution focus.
- Faith experiences will be published in the April and May issues of the *World Tribune*, and the May *Living Buddhism*.

**Timeline:**

- **March 23:** May Contribution Focus for 2020 Region-Territory Teleconference with National leaders.
- **April 24:** Online contributions will be accepted online at sgi-usa.org or the Membership Portal.
- **April 28:** May Contribution begins.
- **June 7:** May Contribution concludes.