## MASONRY & CIVILITY

Our Role in Promoting Civility

## Masonry and Civility

- Have you been watching the news?
  - Examples of disrespect for authority and social norms
  - Uncivil dialogue and uncooperative attitude in the halls of government
  - Disregard for human life
  - Promotion of violence in media of all kinds
  - Disrespect for the ideas and opinions of others
  - Unwillingness to engage in civil dialogue
  - Erosion of manners and norms of appropriate behavior

## Masonry and Civility

- What does Freemasonry have to contribute to the restoration of civility in society?
  - A philosophy that promotes civility described in our Standard Work and reiterated at every Stated Communication
  - A membership that has taken sacred oaths to abide by the higher standards of our fraternity and offers these principles of civility to all humanity
  - An army of thousands of good men who can promote civility in our homes, schools, workplaces, in the media, and in our Lodges

## Masonry and Civility

- Where do you start?
  - Recognize that May is National Civility Month
  - Begin a discussion about the role of civility in your Lodge
  - Develop ways to promote civility outside of the Lodge
  - Visit the National Civility Center website at civilitycenter.org
    - Find out about the civility movement in the United States and Canada
    - Locate tools that can help you promote civility
    - Join the civility movement