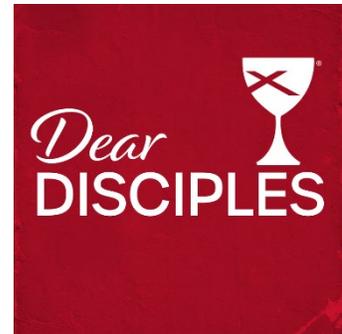


# Dear Disciples

July 16, 2021

Transcript



Hello, Disciples. This is your General Minister and President, Terri Hord Owens. A couple of months ago, I had the opportunity to get the COVID 19 vaccine, and so I got the COVID 19 vaccine. Why? Well, first of all, I believe in the science and I understand that the more of us who are vaccinated, the safer we all are and the sooner we can return to those activities and gatherings that mean so much to us - being with our families and friends, being able to safely return to in-person worship. The science bears out that it's the right thing to do, to get the vaccine,

And secondly, and perhaps most importantly, I believe that getting the vaccine is an expression of my own Christian faith. Jesus gave us that Great Commandment telling us and reminding us that we are to love God, but also to love our neighbors as ourselves. Jesus raised the bar when he said, "Love one another as I have loved you." What a great expansive and generous love God had for us by sending Jesus!

And so I see getting the vaccine as my love for you, my love for my family, and community, by making sure that we are all safe together.

I know that you have a story perhaps about why you decided to get the vaccine. And perhaps your congregation has been doing work in your community to both educate people about the vaccine. Maybe your congregation has even been a distribution site for vaccinations. If so, we'd love to hear your story, your testimony, about how you've loved neighbor and loved community so that you've worked hard to ensure that as many people are vaccinated as possible.

Once you share your stories with us, please contact us through any of our social media platforms. We want to share your stories, your testimonies, with the church. There is no greater love. Jesus calls us to love one another as he has loved us and by being vaccinated we can make all of our communities safer sooner. Remember God loves you, and so do I.