

**Disciples Women Report**  
National Convocation of the Christian Church  
(Disciples of Christ)

November 15, 2021

As we were finalizing our plans for the 2020 Luncheon "It's Real!" with NAPAD and Obra Hispana, we were hit with COVID-19 in March 2020. Everything changed. Since then, many of our family members and friends have suffered from the coronavirus. Also, some of us have lost family and friends due to coronavirus. 1 Thessalonians 5:17, tells us to *"Pray without ceasing."* As we go forward there will be many challenges ahead of us. The normal we once knew, may not be anymore. But, we must change with the time. Last year, our church services, Bible Study, meetings, retreats, regional assembly, school and etc. were mostly done virtually. During this time, many of us have learned about Zoom, Gotomeeting and other video conferencing tools in order to connect with each other.

At this time, plans for Leadership Apprentice Training (LAP) were done on Zoom. I had a financial goal for the Disciples Women Endowment Fund that I have also put on hold. So many people have lost their jobs, can't pay rent, buy food and some are homeless. I have experienced this with my own family and friends that need help. If we as Disciples Women can help someone in need now, then let's do it. I challenge each of you to, *"Reach out and touch somebody's hand and help make this world a better place while we can!"*

I have attended and participated in the Ordination Service for Dr. Nearline Anderson at the Indianola Christian Church in Indianola, Mississippi on May 16, 2021.

On August 14, 2021, I was the speaker for the Grief Support Program for Grieving Parents in Coila, Mississippi. Mothers shared how their children died. I was also one of the parents who had lost a child. But, we all agreed it was by the grace of God that has kept us.

Our next Disciples Women Luncheon will be during the National Convocation in July 2022. We pray that the coronavirus will be under control and we can come together once again. It is our prayer that we will listen to the professionals, get vaccinated, wear masks, keep our distance, wash our hands and most importantly pray for everyone.

We are looking forward to working with Rev. Angele Johnson, IDWM Executive Director.

*My Motto: "If I can help somebody as I travel along, then my living shall not be in vain!"*

Pernella Shortie, President  
Disciples Women National Convocation