

CHURCH OF GOD INTERNATIONAL OFFICES
Office of the General Overseer

Statement on COVID-19 Vaccinations

(August 13, 2021)

CLEVELAND, TN: Dr. Timothy M. Hill, General Overseer of the Church of God, issued the following statement concerning the COVID-19 vaccinations:

"As we face a resurgence of new cases, there is no doubt that the COVID-19 vaccine issue is at the forefront of all our minds, with strong opinions about taking the vaccine and equally strong opinions about not taking the vaccine. When I speak about this issue, I always remind my audience that the Church of God is made up of a diverse group of people, both in ministry and in membership. This diversity manifests itself in many issues, including the COVID-19 vaccine issue. On one hand, we have many pastors and members who adamantly believe that the COVID-19 vaccines should be taken - and some that believe that it should be mandated. We even have medical doctors in our church family who strongly support everyone taking the COVID-19 vaccines.

On the other hand, we have pastors and members, again supported by medical doctors, who just as strongly believe against taking the vaccines, for one reason or another. Further, we have many constituents with positions in between these two strong positions. Without a doubt, the positions of our church constituency cover the entire spectrum of views about the COVID-19 vaccines.

In the final analysis, the only reasonable position that we as a church, and I as a leader, can take is that the decision to take the COVID-19 vaccines is a personal and individual health care decision that one should make prayerfully and in consultation with his or her doctor or health care professional.

As a church and as a body of believers, I believe that it is critical for each one of us individually to seek God's wisdom as we make this important health care decision."