

FROM OUR PROVINCE DIRECTOR

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H.O.P.E. (Have Only Positive Expectations)

My dear sisters in Christ,

Our long-awaited vaccine for COVID-19 is here, and we are seeing a light at the end of the tunnel. With each step we make forward during this pandemic, we encounter more rays of HOPE: Have Only Positive Expectations.

As Christians, we are completing our 40 days of Lent. We encounter the number 40 in the Bible numerous times.

- The 40 days and nights that rain fell, flooding the earth, while Noah, his family, and many animals took refuge on the ark.
- The 40 years that the Israelites spent in the wilderness after fleeing from Egypt.
- The 40 days Jesus spent in the desert being tempted by Satan.

What do these periods of time have in common with our current pandemic? All of these periods are of uncertainty. All of these are plagued with fear and anxiety.

Another common thread that runs through these stories and our world today is that Noah was crammed into a small space with his family, the Israelites wandered through the unknown, and Jesus was all alone. Many people were floundering then as we are now, but they continued to persist by trusting and having faith in God.

Today, we are not any different. God is our sure and steadfast anchor of the soul. These stories offer us hope

- in the way that each group made it through.
- in the way that the Israelites leaned on each other as a community, something that we have been invited to do as we learn to love each other well from a distance.
- in Jesus whose beginning of his ministry was marked by this time of trial and isolation.

We can experience hope as women in Christ by the numerous emerging dates of rescheduled events or events taking place outside of the normal within our councils.

NCCW

The rescheduled NCCW Convention is planned for August 25-28. New roll outs of NCCW fundraisers and programs include Walk to Convention 2020ne, NCCW President-Elect Quilt Raffle, 101 Ways NCCW is great, and the virtual LTD programs.

So today, let us HOPE. Let us see how biblical history repeats itself. Do not let it daunt us but create HOPE as we hold tight to our faith, as we continue through the tunnel until we get to the other side.