

Black Churches Fill a Unique Role in Combating Vaccine Fears | Black Voice News

By Anna Almendrala

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In the hospital with covid-19 in December, Lavina Wafer tired of the tubes in her nose and wondered impatiently why she couldn't be discharged. A phone call with her pastor helped her understand that the tube was piping in lifesaving oxygen, which had to be slowly tapered to protect her.

Now that Wafer, 70, is well and back home in Richmond, California, she's looking to her pastor for advice about the covid vaccines. Though she doubts they're as wonderful as the government claims, she plans to get vaccinated anyway — because of his example.

"He said he's not going to push us to take it. It's our choice," Wafer said, referring to a recent online sermon that praised the vaccines as God-given science with the power to save. "But he wanted us to know he's going to take it as soon as he can."

[...]

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