

The Covid-19 Pandemic History of

Erin Holley

From

Marriott Slaterville, Utah

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Recorded and compiled by

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A Family Friend

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The first time the Pandemic really sank in for me wasn't when it all started but, when the earthquake happened and when everyone was hoarding the toilet paper. Before that I just thought it was temporary, there was not really a reason to panic. I was worried about taking care of my parents. I didn't want them to get Covid and die and how was I supposed to take care of them without exposing them to the sickness.

My name is Erin Holley and before the pandemic, life was pretty normal. I would help get my husband, Shay off to work and my daughter, Sarah to school. After that I would do house work, yard work, and anything else that needed to be done. I am also a part of the city council for Marriott Slaterville. In my free time I would hike, travel, and just be outdoors.

We had been planning a trip to Hawaii before Covid got to America. Everything had to be postponed. I had no idea how bad it could be. My father-in-law didn't even know and he is in his late 90's. Shay was the one who told me about covid. He was so concerned about how it would affect the hospitals. He wasn't sure how they would be able to care for so many who would be in need of serious care.

So once we had our first case in America I knew that Shay would have to be quarantined at some point because of him being an E.R. Doctor. We started to look for a trailer that he could live in if something happened. Literally the day after we bought our trailer Shay had to quarantine. It was during March and last March was a very dark time for our family. Shay was living alone in a trailer, Sarah and I lived alone in the house, and there were so many rain storms making it dark all the time.

Then while talking on the phone with Shay, I heard this loud rattle, and then the Earthquake happened. I was scared. I asked Shay if he had heard anything; he said yes. I called every person in my family making sure they were alright even before the earthquake had stopped. During all the aftershocks I made Sarah stand in the doorway. After a while she was like "Mom, it is going to be alright". I was anxious and scared about any noise or

big movement. After a while I started to get less paranoid of things from the earthquake.

By the time it was time for General Conference I was doing alright but, with it came more struggles. Like not being able to see anyone but the general authorities. It was hard because I am used to seeing people or even being there on my own.

When the windstorm hit I was worried knowing that anything could happen. After the first night I was driving and could see all the different trees that had fallen down in the wind. I was so glad that our family didn't personally suffer too much damage, but my daughter who lives by Weber State had quite a few big branches down. Her ward members helped cut and load and carry away those branches. I was so so so grateful for them! My neighbors, Shawn and Marilyn also had a big tree go down near their home. No serious damage came from that. We helped them cut it up and used our tractor to lift the big pieces into our trailer and took them away.

When the first vaccine came out I wanted to get my parents on the list because once they were vaccinated and I was vaccinated I could have peace again. People asked me if I was worried about anything happening to me but I wasn't. The Prophet even got it and I knew that if he got it that it was safe. Nothing like we ever did before. Life is almost back to normal and now that Sarah can get the vaccine I am so excited. We have been keeping in touch with our family by calling them and porch visits.

In the future I think that I will try not to be so busy and just enjoy the simple things in life, instead of the always busy person I was before this pandemic. I will always remember though that I am strong and that I can always learn to do something new if I put my mind to it.